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GAME'S FUTURE HANGS ON SEPT. VOTE

— By Andrew Dettre

On September 5, the 16 PSL clubs will be asked to vote for or against the plan to reverse the season, starting in October 1982.

If, as expected, the majority of the clubs vote 'yes,' the controversial 'summer soccer' becomes a reality.

There is no chance that the ASF would veto the plan. If it tried to, the PSL clubs would stage a revolt and a possible break-away.

As for possible opposition from State Federations, these would be quite irrelevant.

In fact, most State Leagues would benefit enormously if their seasons did not clash with the PSL—just as the PSL is certain to benefit from the absence of competition with Aussie Rules and rugby league.

Last week's specially arranged press conference in Sydney was professionally handled and brilliantly chaired by Frank Lowy.

His calm, confident answers and explanations quietened if not fully disarmed some of the most loaded and venomous questions.

Although he stopped inches short of saying so, he implied that regardless of the attitude of the ASF and States and also regardless of the threatened 'revenge' by some daily newspapers, the switch in seasons will go ahead, if approved by the 16 PSL clubs.

What he should have added was this: there is hardly any alternative.

The mindless if not hysterical opposition to the reverse season appears to imply two things:

• That we are now enjoying an enormous boom which could be deliberately wrecked;

• That this is the plan or at least the will of ASF Marketing.

Both are dangerous distortions of the truth.

ASF Marketing have merely carried out the instruction of the PSL Management Committee and Council to prepare a feasibility study.

Had all the gathered evidence proved that the idea was not practical, I am sure they would have come out in the report saying so.

The other implication is even more dishonest.

Those who talk about

'summer madness' and 'suicide' should be well enough informed to realise that only some very radical changes can give the PSL a real hope of survival.

At present, in direct opposition to Australia's sacred cows, Aussie Rules and rugby league, soccer is doomed to remain a minority sport.

Rugby league can cripple half a dozen players a week; eyes can be knocked out and huge club funds can be knocked off—yet the public will always regard the game as the 'Aussie sport.'

A reverse season competition will have to confront cricket and tennis, both of which have largely different types of followings.

Also, apart from some cricket Tests and the occasional big tennis tour-

namment, the local stuff, including the Sheffield Shield, attracts six spectators and their dogs.

One more thing Frank Lowy could have asked of the gathering: OK, let's forget about 'summer soccer'—what then?

Where are the alternatives, the other brilliant options thought up and worked out by the opponents of the scheme?

What other reasonable choice is there for the PSL to avoid today's stagnation which would surely lead to one club's bankruptcy after another.

This scheme must be tried and given every chance to succeed.

Eventually, it may not work—but then nothing else has worked for 100 years so why be afraid of a logical and well prepared experiment?



Peter Wilson (left), the ex-Socceroo skipper of Leichhardt and Kevin Mullen of Sydney City in one of the many fierce duels which marred last weekend's encounter at the Sydney Athletic Field, resulting in a Slickers win — and four yellow cards.

EDITORIAL

It seems we will have to shed our customary modesty once again...

The idea of reversing the PSL seasons was first publicly advocated by this newspaper.

After private discussions with Sir Arthur George in 1979, on September 13 of the same year we wrote:

"If soccer...really wanted to get crowds...it would have to change seasons...in our climate it would be quite possible to start the PSL in September and finish in March or April, playing on Wednesday and Friday evenings..."

Firmly believing in the idea, we revived it again in February 1980.

Following a number of talks and interviews with leading US soccer officials in New York and Los Angeles, we published a series of four long features outlining the American set-up.

In one of them we wrote:

"The soccer season has to be changed or at least shifted to avoid head-on collision with Aussie Rules and rugby league." (Feb. 21, 1980).

"The ASF should call for an urgent, very detailed and very sincere study to find ways of making the necessary changes."

From then on, the ASF, through its Marketing organisation, took up the idea.

On July 7 the PSL Management Committee decided to proceed with the study.

On August 7 we published our own survey among readers indicating that more than 66 per cent were in favor of such a switch and less than four per cent strongly opposed.

Following this, on September 14, the PSL Council of Clubs approved the switch, subject to a study being prepared and final approval given by the clubs.

This is now due on September 5—less than two years after the idea was first publicly mooted.

Naturally, we are delighted that our original concept has grown into a resolution—even if ASF Marketing, for reasons better known to themselves, have not given us credit for launching the entire campaign...

MISS SOCCER



This lovely lady is Suzanne Rene-Scott, 20, recently crowned as Britain's Soccer Queen.

She hails from Hull but we don't have her phone number.

Judging by her "light" dress, she, too, is in favor of summer soccer.

And a few Suzannes in such an outfit could brighten up our games, too.

'BABES' GO ON CUP MISSION

Australia will field its complete Youth team in the remaining two World Cup elimination matches, against Indonesia and Taiwan.

This decision was obviously made in order to give the Socceroo Babes some useful hit-out before the World Youth Cup in October.

This is a noble idea and a fairly practical one, too—though not without some flaws.

The host countries may resent our "gesture" as it could affect their attendances.

And before we say 'who cares' let us just remember how we always scream whenever visiting teams come here without their stars—for any reason at all...

Another point to keep in mind is that our Youth team may not be strong enough for this type of mission, especially against the clever Indonesians.

Some bad results could dent their spirit before taking on the might of Argentina and England in October.

But the experiment may work and it's worth the risk.

The team will leave on Sunday at 6pm from Sydney.

The first match is in

Jakarta on Sunday, August 30.

After that the Socceroo-Babes will go to Taipei to play Taiwan on September 6.

The 6pm Sunday departure is causing the ASF some headaches.

It may have to rush players from Newcastle (Hunter of Marconi), Wollongong (Patikas of Sydney City) and Blacktown (Katholos of Olympic) by three helicopters to Mascot International airport.

The cost of such flights is surprisingly low, only about \$16 from Castle Hill to Mascot.

The other alternative would be to bring the kick-off times forward by 30 minutes.

This, however, is not possible in Newcastle and Wollongong where many industrial workers finish their shifts at 2pm and hardly make it by 3pm to the ground.

Rudi in darkest Africa

Rudi Gutendorf is coaching again—in Africa. The West German coach who had left Australia in June through the backdoor then spent a few weeks in Germany.

Now, according to a report from Frankfurt, he is holding coaching courses in Tanzania and Upper Volta.

It would be interesting to know how he gets on with the usually restless natives.

On last year's world tour, when he was unhappy with training conditions in Greece, he exploded: "We are not natives from the darkest Africa."

What will he say now if he takes his Upper Volta XI on a tour?

**DUNLOP SPORTS
FOOTWEAR**



With Val Hokin and Emmanuel Kanna.

Padstow Park (3rd div.) having defeated Paddington Spanish 2-1, are still with a chance of finishing in the top four. Padstow scored the first goal when a Gary Brookes freekick floated in the goal area and when the Spanish goalkeeper jumped to save Brian Bevan jumped higher and was able to head the ball into the net. This lead was nullified soon when the Spanish were awarded a penalty which David Jones converted. In the second half Padstow scored again this time out of a goalmouth scramble from which Steve Grieve slid

Bondi Marine (3rd div.) had a good 4-3 win against **Wenty Waratah** and as a result **Bondi** replaced **Wenty** in the third position. The half-time score was 2-2. For **Bondi** **Gary Burchill**, **Norris Porter** and **Ian McGovern** (2) were the scorers. **Wenty** who went into the lead twice had goals scored by **Tommy Binni** (header), **Glen Maloney** (penalty) and **Warren Lowe**. The game was even and very entertaining to watch and were it not for some slips in **Wenty** defence, the visitors should at least have shared the points.

One suggestion which comes to mind is a preliminary coaching course which would be run by the NSW

Allan Maher from Maher Enterprises who is selling Socceroo stickers and badges is not myself and is not related to me at all.

Hurstville	8	6	5	24	27	2
Eastern C.	7	7	6	22	27	2
Padstow	8	4	7	29	20	2
Paddingtn	6	7	7	25	29	1
Syd.Uni	8	2	10	23	28	1
Fairfld.K.	5	5	10	33	39	1
W.Ryde	4	6	10	25	45	1
Port Hack.	5	3	12	23	53	1

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Division 6		
Bl. Work. v Rang.	1-2	0-1
Colo Colo v T'dinos	1-2	3-1
S.Syd. v Bl.Wands	0-6	0-2
P'matta v Robins	1-2	0-2
Lpl.Rang. v Lpl.City	0-9	0-2
Lpl.Utd. v Bankst	3-2	2-4

ESPAÑA 82

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PHILIPS SOCCER LEAGUE



VULNERABLE

What had seemed to be a legitimate title challenge to Leichhardt officials only a few weeks ago has petered out, as we expected.

Today's Leichhardt still has a few vulnerable spots and the team often plays without a master-plan.

Canberra are back in business, after two grand wins and they certainly have the players to put on a good show at Lambert Park.

Former team-mates and friends Valeri and Giampaolo will be in opposing trenches and their respective teams will badly need a spark or two from these talented strikers.

Our tip: Canberra 2-1.



Morsello

CEREBRAL

After their dreadful display last week, Lions will have to bounce back to peak form to have any sort of a chance against the rejuvenated Heidelberg.

Heidelberg, predictably, are riding high at the promptings of Len McKendry and none higher than Gary Cole, in devastating goal-scoring form.

Frankly, it's hard to see the Lions hold the Victorians if those continue their convincing performances, once again masterminded by a very busy and extremely cerebral midfield.

Our tip: Heidelberg 2-1.



J. Campbell

TOWERS

South Melbourne's guns got jammed last week: one measly point from two vital clashes has severely dented their title hopes.

Still, they are almost certain to make amends against Brisbane City, now that Davidson, Blair and Wooddin will be all fit and available to rejoin the party.

Brisbane City can be very awkward opponents: a tight defence, a good midfield and then the two leaning towers of Queensland, Kelso and P. Wilkinson, can cause bother to any team.

Our tip: South Melbourne 3-1.



Xanthopoulos

COBWEBS

Slaughtered by poisoned Arrows last week, Newcastle could be mauled by some wounded Leopards this week.

Marconi, having rested last week, will play their first game under new coach Luciano Nesti and it will be interesting to see if the old Italian maestro can crack the whip any better than his crestfallen predecessor, Blanco.

So many of the Marconi aces are in indifferent form — especially in their much vaunted attack — that even a new broom is unlikely to sweep away all the cobwebs.

Our tip: Newcastle 1-0.



Jankovics

VIRILE

This may be Blacktown's last chance for survival but they could have picked an easier opponent than the virile Olympic, going at full pelt for most of the 90 minutes.

Blacktown's main hopes lie in the experienced Djordjevic, Krstic and Burrows and the magical left foot of O'Donnell.

If the Olympic midfield again gets a firm hold on the game, they should go close to winning but Blacktown's superior motivation may be a deciding factor.

Our tip: 2-2.



Burrows

NO MACHINE

Preston will face what is perhaps their most important match of the season against Adelaide City.

A win here would keep the gap between themselves and Blacktown; a loss would give them a very jittery last three weeks.

Adelaide City's total unpredictability is also part of this team's charm: they are anything like a well oiled machine.

They will fight hard to finish a creditable third on the table but could have problems against Preston which, no doubt, will fight fiercely for every ball.

Our tip: 1-1 draw.



J. Nyskohus

DEATHBED

Adelaide Hawks no longer have the slightest chance of escaping relegation and one wonders in just what sort of a frame of mind they will greet the struggling Footscray.

Westad are probably reshaping their team for the Philips Cup final now.

Not so Footscray, who still need a couple of points, if not more, to feel totally secure.

The Victorians have the skill and also the incentive to put on their Sunday best and this should be enough against the hapless Westad now on their deathbed.

Our tip: Footscray 1-0.



Jovanovic



We can count at least nine players in this goalmouth traffic jam at last Sunday's Slickers v Leichhardt game (top).
Left: John Kosmina celebrating his goal.



TWO GAMES WEDNESDAY

Two matches postponed from earlier rounds will be played this week Wednesday.

In Adelaide West Adelaide — now in a hopeless position — will play host to Sydney Olympic while in Melbourne the revived Heidelberg will meet Marconi.

Olympic, even without their three stalwarts unable to make the mid-week trip, should be too fast and too skilful against the doomed Westad—we expect them to win 2-1 or so.

Marconi will be without the injured Maher in the Melbourne game.

Heidelberg have now regained all their former composure and with Gary Cole in devastating form, should be able to win both points, perhaps 3-1.

TRIANGLE

Wollongong, the PSL newcomers, ironically have a big say in the outcome of the 1981 title when they meet Sydney City.

The Wolves rested in their lair last week and will have back their Kiwis, De Graaf and Campbell, from across the Tasman.

Sydney City have once again zeroed in on the title and all they have to do is keep their nose slightly in front.

With the Bodgen-Kosmina-Watson triangle working again like magic, Sydney City should have a bit too much method and class for the hosts.

Our tip: Sydney City 2-0.

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TEAM OF ROUND 26

	HOSZOWSKI (Canberra)		
McMILLAN (Heidelberg)	KONDARIOS (Footscray)	BYRNE (Canberra)	DAVIDSON (Sth.Melbourne)
RASKOPOULOS (Olympic)	VILLANI (Adelaide City)	KATHOLOS (Olympic)	
WATSON (Sydney City)	MITCHELL (Adelaide City)	NORTHCOTE (Adelaide City)	

THIS WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS

• Olympic will go to West Adelaide for Wednesday's match without P. Wilson, Rowden and Scott who can't take time off work.

• Joe Gilroy, Lions: "We lost to a much better team. Our youngsters have to learn to cope with all conditions, including such an atrocious

surface — the worst in the PSL."

• Doug Collins, Olympic: "Of course, I'm delighted. Now that we have a fully fit squad we'll improve even further."

• Young Mark Koussas, Olympic: "I wish that lob of mine had gone in; I'd have loved to score two goals."

• Nigel Lowndes' left hand, broken a few weeks ago, is mending nicely and he's almost ready to make his return.

• Olympic president John Constantine was asked by Blacktown to write their application not to be relegated from the PSL. Constantine has some experience in this field: In 1979 he applied to be retained (case lost) and in 1980 to be re-admitted (case won.)

• Eddie Thomson, Sydney City: "Now that we are at the top again, I'm confident of winning the title."

• Adelaide City coach, Bob D'Ottavi: "Many of the established players had been off form for several weeks and they were told before today's game that this would be their last chance to keep their places in the side. I think you can see that they all responded out there today."

• "Bad luck," said a consoling supporter to South Melbourne coach, John Margaritis after his team had lost 0-2 to Adcity. "There's no such thing as bad luck in football," said Margaritis.

• The SA branch of the Australian Soccer Press Association has named Azzurri striker Wally Bojczuk as its

Rothmans League Player of the Year.

• Ray Baartz, Newcastle: "The Canberra front runners were too fast for us and were constantly troubling our defence. This was our worst performance since I became coach."

• George Murray, Canberra: "Perhaps we were not a three-goal better team but we capitalised on the Newcastle errors and punished their defence by scoring goals."

• John Margaritis, South Melbourne: "Under the circumstances I suppose I should be happy with a point but really for the good of the game, we should not have been made to play today. However, that apart, I was surprised by Brisbane City's tactics. They got very rough after half-time, far too physical for their own good, and we could have won in the end. The pitch is very small and we will take them apart in Melbourne."

• George Potter, Brisbane City: "We cannot expect to win anything until we begin to put our chances away. With the score at 1-0 we had three gilt edged chances to kill-off the South Melbourne team. Striker Paul Wilkinson had an off day and so we have to be happy with one point again when two should have been guaranteed."



Our congratulations to:

JOHN COYNE (Leichhardt)

for having played his 100th PSL match.

TOP PSL SCORERS

EVANS (Sth. Melbourne)	13
COLE (Heidelberg)	12
BODEN (Sydney City)	11
KOSMINA (Sydney City)	9
P. WILKINSON (Brisbane City)	9

PHILIPS LEAGUE 1981

	ADELAIDE GIANTS	ADELAIDE HAWKS	BLACKTOWN DEMONS	BRISBANE GLADIATORS	BRISBANE LIONS	CANBERRA ARROWS	FOOTSCRAY EAGLES	HEIDELBERG WARRIORS	LEICHHARDT STRIKERS	MARCONI LEOPARDS	MELBOURNE GUNNERS	NEWCASTLE KB	PRESTON RAMS	SYDNEY OLYMPIANS	SYDNEY SLICKERS	WOLLONGONG WOLVES
ADELAIDE GIANTS	★		0-0	1-0	3-2	1-0	1-3	3-1	0-0	0-1	2-0	4-1	1-0	3-1	0-1	1-2
ADELAIDE HAWKS	0-3	★	2-0			1-1		0-5	1-2	2-0	0-2	0-1	4-0		1-2	0-0
BLACKTOWN DEMONS	1-5	4-0	★	1-2	2-2	0-2		3-1	0-1	0-2	2-2	1-2	0-0		1-0	0-1
BRISBANE GLADIATORS		2-1	2-1	★	1-0	0-0	2-0	1-2	0-0	4-0	1-1	1-1		3-0	2-0	1-0
BRISBANE LIONS	2-1	3-1		1-0	★	1-0	4-0		0-0	2-0	2-0	0-1	2-1	1-1	4-3	1-1
CANBERRA ARROWS	0-0	1-2	2-2	3-0	2-3	★	5-0	1-5	0-1	0-0	2-2	4-1		2-1	2-0	
FOOTSCRAY EAGLES	1-1	1-1	2-0	1-0		3-1	★	2-2	2-1	1-2	1-2		2-1	1-1	1-0	1-1
HEIDELBERG WARRIORS	1-2	2-0		2-0		1-1	2-0	★			0-0	1-2	2-3	1-0	0-1	0-3
LEICHHARDT STRIKERS	3-0	1-0	3-2	2-2	0-0		2-0	2-2	★		1-1	2-1	1-1		0-1	1-0
MARCONI LEOPARDS	1-4	1-0		1-1	2-1	0-2	1-3	3-1		★		1-2	1-0	2-1	1-0	1-1
MELBOURNE GUNNERS	0-0	5-0	2-1		1-0		2-1	2-1	4-1	1-0	★	2-0	2-0	1-1	1-3	1-0
NEWCASTLE KB	2-2	4-2	1-1	0-2	1-1	0-1	3-0	0-2	3-1	0-0	1-1	3-1	★	3-1		6-0
PRESTON RAMS		2-0	2-3	1-1	1-1	0-1	3-0	0-2	3-1	0-0	1-1	3-1	★	3-1		6-0
SYDNEY OLYMPIANS	3-1	3-1	1-0	1-1	3-1	0-2	0-0	2-1	1-3	2-0	2-2		2-1	★	2-2	
SYDNEY SLICKERS		1-0	1-1	1-1	1-1	3-2	3-0	1-0	3-0	5-0		4-1	2-0	5-4	★	1-0
WOLLONGONG WOLVES	4-1	2-1	1-1	0-0	1-1	0-1	2-1	3-4	1-1		1-1	0-0	2-2	3-1		★

Soccer Terms explained:
No. 12



Throw-in.

When the ball crosses the side touch-line, it is "thrown" back into play by a player from the team opposing that of the player who last touched it. The thrower must face the field of play with both feet on or outside the touch-line, and "throw-in" the ball with both hands from behind and over his head.

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PHILIPS YOUTH LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
A.I.S.	24	14	3	7	66	41	31
Marconi	21	13	4	4	53	22	30
Leichhardt	21	13	4	4	49	28	30
Newcastle	22	10	8	4	43	37	28
Sydney City	22	8	9	5	54	32	25
Olympians	22	8	6	8	33	27	22
Wollongong	22	7	2	13	25	50	16
Blacktown	20	3	3	14	27	49	9
Canberra	20	1	1	18	16	80	3

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS:

Sydney City v Leichhardt 2-2 (Goals: Lee, Vale; De Ceglie, Carter)
A.I.S. v Olympians 2-1 (Goals: Wright Murray; Townson)
Canberra v Newcastle 2-3 (Goals: Nousinian, Orsag; McClelland, Story, Stamp.)
Marconi v Blacktown, postponed.

THIS WEEK:

Blacktown v Olympians, 12.45pm, Gabbie Stadium
Newcastle v Marconi, 12 noon, Int. Sports Centre
Leichhardt v Canberra, 12.45pm, Lambert Park
Wollongong v Sydney City, 12.30pm, Wollongong Show Grd.

LEADING SCORERS:

Michael McLaughlin (A.I.S.)	19
Paul Scheinflug (Marconi)	18
Danny Wright (A.I.S.)	15
Ait Stamp (Newcastle)	14
Grant Lee (Sydney City)	13
Graeme Fletcher (Sydney City)	12
John Bailey (Leichhardt)	10
Robert De Ceglie (Leichhardt)	10
Chris Townson (Olympians)	10

PHILIPS LEAGUE

	AGGREGATE									HOME							AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	±	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	
1 SYDNEY CITY	26	16	4	6	46	26	+20	36	13	10	3	—	31	10	23	13	6	1	6	15	16	13	
2 STH.MELBOURNE	26	12	11	3	38	23	+15	35	13	10	2	1	24	8	22	13	2	9	2	14	15	13	
3 ADELAIDE CITY	26	12	6	8	40	30	+10	30	14	8	2	4	20	12	18	12	4	4	4	20	18	12	
4 CANBERRA	26	11	7	8	38	27	+11	29	13	5	4	4	24	17	14	13	6	3	4	14	10	15	
5 BRISBANE LIONS	25	10	9	6	36	27	+9	29	13	9	3	1	23	9	21	12	1	6	5	13	18	8	
6 BRISBANE CITY	26	10	10	6	30	21	+9	29	13	8	4	1	20	6	20	13	2	6	5	10	15	10	
7 LEICHHARDT	25	10	9	6	30	29	+1	29	12	6	5	1	18	10	17	13	4	4	5	12	19	12	
8 WOLLONGONG	26	7	12	7	30	30	—	26	13	4	7	2	20	15	15	13	3	5	5	10	15	11	
9 NEWCASTLE	26	9	7	10	36	38	—2	25	13	4	5	4	22	15	13	13	5	2	6	14	23	12	
10 OLYMPIC	25	8	7	10	36	41	—5	23	13	7	4	2	22	15	18	12	1	3	8	14	26	5	
11 HEIDELBERG	24	9	4	11	39	35	+4	22	11	4	2	5	12	12	10	13	5	2	6	27	23	12	
12 MARCONI	23	9	4	10	20	33	—13	22	12	6	2	4	15	16	14	11	3	2	6	5	17	8	
13 FOOTSCRAY	26	8	6	12	27	43	—16	22	13	6	5	2	19	13	17	13	2	1	10	8	30	5	
14 PRESTON	26	7	7	12	34	37	—3	21	13	6	4	3	25	12	16	13	1	3	9	9	25	5	
15 BLACKTOWN	25	4	8	13	27	39	—12	16	13	3	3	7	15	20	9	12	1	5	6	12	19	7	
16 WEST ADELAIDE	25	4	3	18	20	48	—28	11	11	3	2	6	11	16	8	14	1	1	12	9	32	3	

After the war comes the Battle.



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WEEKEND GUIDE TO PHILIPS LEAGUE



Morsello

LEICHHARDT

Likely squad: 1. Woodhouse, 2. Skellern, 3. McAusland, 4. Pullen, 5. Wilson, 6. Hughes, 7. Soper, 8. Giampaolo, 9. Pirie, 10. Kafka, 11. O'Connor, 12. Morsello, 13. Bradley, 14. Leyden, 15. McKie, 16. Watt, 17. Casacchia, 18. Gray, 19. Zaccorner, 20. Parkes. Coach: Willie Wallace.

Sunday, 3pm
Lambert Park

PAST RESULTS:

1979: Leichhardt v Canberra 3-0
1980: Leichhardt v Canberra 2-1
1981: Canberra v Leichhardt 0-1

CANBERRA CITY

Likely squad: 21. Hoszowski, 2. M. O'Shea, 3. Williams, 4. Cole, 5. J. O'Shea, 6. Stark, 7. R. O'Shea, 8. Byrne, 9. Valeri, 10. McLaren, 11. Brennan, 12. Gibson, 13. Purdie, 14. Massa, 15. Mat-sopoulos. Coach: G. Murray.

REFEREE: A. Boskovic
Linesmen: A. Owens
P. Wood



R. O'Shea



Hermiston

BRISBANE LIONS

Likely squad: 1. Scanlan, 2. Ontong, 3. Niven, 4. Williamson, 5. Bennett, 6. Hermiston, 7. Hogg, 8. McLean, 9. Ferris, 10. Millman, 11. McNaughton, 12. McGregor, 13. Latchford, 14. Ogden, 15. Daunt, 14. Ogden, 15. Daunt, 16. Low, 18. Konstantinou, 19. Bryce, 20. Lowndes. Coach: J. Gilroy.

Sunday, 3pm
Richlands

PAST RESULTS:

1977: Lions v Heidelberg 2-1
1978: Lions v Heidelberg 1-1
1979: Lions v Heidelberg 1-3
1980: Lions v Heidelberg 1-2
1981: Heidelberg v Lions on 28/8

HEIDELBERG

Likely squad: 1. Olver, 2. McMillan, 3. Tansey, 4. Yzendoorn, 5. McLeod, 6. Selemidis, 7. Rooney, 8. Campbell, 9. Paton, 11. Bozikas, 12. Yankos, 14. Provan, 15. Taylor, 16. Cole, 17. Tasevski, 20. Reilly. Coach: L. McKendry.

REFEREE: C. Amos
Linesmen: G. Nicholson,
D. Monteverde



Bozikas



Manecas

WEST ADELAIDE

Likely squad: 1. Crook, 4. Lorenzoni, 5. Topaz, 6. Bozanic, 8. Manecas, 9. Lorenzoni, 10. Honeyman, 11. McGregor, 12. Forde, 13. Haig, 14. Koulianos, 15. Marisic, 16. Brown, 17. Wright, 18. Smythe, 19. Kowalski, 20. Miller, 21. Hughes. Coach: P. Jaksa.

Sunday, 2.30pm
Hindmarsh

PAST RESULTS:

1977: West Adelaide v Footscray 1-0
1978: West Adelaide v Footscray 1-2
1979: West Adelaide v Footscray 5-0
1980: West Adelaide v Footscray 0-2
1981: Footscray v West Adelaide 1-1

FOOTSCRAY

Likely squad: 1. Boland, 2. Hazabent, 3. Petrou, 4. Kyriakoulas, 5. Kondarios, 6. Jovanovic, 7. Simic, 8. Ilioski, 9. O'Reilly, 11. Lujic, 12. Licanin, 14. Belic, 15. Kakantonis, 17. Cozzella, 18. Milne, 19. Potter, 20. Verweij. Coach: C. Cirkovic.

REFEREE: R. Kerr
Linesmen: P. Smallman,
J. Woodward.



Jovanovic



Boyle

PRESTON

Likely squad: 1. Kastner, 2. Rainey, 3. Beech, 4. Ollerton, 5. Higham, 6. Faulkner, 7. Cullen, 8. Flavell, 9. McMillan, 10. Petrovski, 11. Ward, 12. Brown, 13. Lucchesi, 14. Little, 15. Stoikos, 16. Whittle, 17. McCluskey, 18. Boyle, 19. Farrell, 20. Clayton, 21. Wilson. Coach: P. Ollerton.

Sunday, 3pm
Conner Reserve

PAST RESULTS:

Preston v Adelaide City for the first time.
1981: Adelaide City v Preston 1-0

ADELAIDE CITY

Likely squad: 21. Peressin, 2. Russell, 3. B. Nyskohus, 4. Besir, 5. Jones, 8. Perin, 9. Marocchi, 10. J. Nyskohus, 11. Mitchell, 12. Northcote, 13. Melta, 14. Miller, 15. Manou, 16. Villani, 17. Signore, 22. Przybylski. Coach: B. D'Ottavi.

REFEREE: E. Venios
Linesmen: D. Voutsinas,
M. Momont



Northcote



Heys

NEWCASTLE UTD.

Likely squad: 1. Dando, 2. Reaney, 3. Tredinnick, 4. Senkalski, 6. Drinkwater, 7. Sumner, 8. Mountford, 9. Jones, 10. Heys, 11. Buckley, 12. Mason, 14. Sneddon, 15. Curran, 16. Kamasz, 17. Storey, 18. Cowburn, 19. Stamp, 20. Gosling. Coach: R. Baartz.

Sunday, 2.30pm
International Sports Centre

PAST RESULTS:

1978: Newcastle v Marconi 1-0
1979: Newcastle v Marconi 2-1
1980: Newcastle v Marconi 0-1
1981: Marconi v Newcastle 1-2

MARCONI

Likely squad: 1. Maher, 2. Brogan, 3. Degney, 4. Henderson, 6. Byrne, 9. Krncevic, 10. Mariani, 11. Sharne, 12. Picioane, 13. Muir, 14. Housseini, 15. Calderon, 16. Tomasich, 17. Colusso, 18. Johnston, 20. Corry. Coach: L. Nesti.

REFEREE: P. Rampley
Linesmen: J. Tattersall
B. Ray



Brogan



Dunleavy

WOLLONGONG CITY

Likely squad: 1. Preston, 2. Willis, 4. Dunleavy, 5. Ainsworth, 6. Adam, 7. Smith, 8. Fleming, 9. Campbell, 10. Lathan, 11. Morlando, 12. Vilestra, 13. McBreen, 15. De Graaf, 16. Tredinnick, 17. Harrison, 18. Morton, 19. Fontana, 20. Kay, 21. Vardareff. Coach: K. Morton.

Sunday, 3pm
Wollongong Showground

PAST RESULTS:

Wollongong v Sydney City for the first time.
1981: Sydney City v Wollongong 1-0.

SYDNEY CITY

Likely squad: 1. Clarke, 2. Mullen, 3. Spanos, 4. O'Connor, 5. Bruce, 6. Murray, 7. Watson, 8. Barnes, 9. Boden, 10. Kosmina, 11. Lee, 12. Cant, 14. Gomez, 16. Patikas, 17. Robertson, 18. Souness, 19. Trenter, 20. Pezzano, 21. Ahearn. Coach: E. Thomson.

REFEREE: T. Davies
Linesmen: B. Fowler
R. Barton



Boden



Hormazabal

BLACKTOWN CITY

Likely squad: 1. James, 2. Wheatley, 3. Pollard, 4. Milovanovic, 5. Pointer, 6. Selvage, 7. Djordjevic, 8. Hormazabal, 9. Culina, 10. O'Donnell, 11. Manning, 12. Quarmby, 13. Cuk, 14. Burrows, 15. Wallace, 16. Turner, 17. Jones, 18. Milosevic, 19. Krstic, 20. Rassmussen. Coach: R. Rasic.

Sunday, 3pm
Toongabbie

PAST RESULTS:

Blacktown v Olympic for the first time.
1981: Olympic v Blacktown 1-0

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Likely squad: 1. Meier, 2. Moulis, 3. Cross, 4. Wilson, 5. Rowden, 6. Katholos, 7. Raskopoulos, 8. Cork, 9. Gavin, 10. Scott, 11. Jennings, 12. Ankudinoff, 13. Cotton, 14. Koussas, 15. Ziras, 16. Jamieson, 18. Laing, 19. Redfern, 20. Wilson. Coach: D. Collins.

REFEREE: H. Witschge
Linesmen: B. Wilkinson
K. Tooke



Rowden



Campbell

STH. MELBOURNE

Likely squad: 1. Laumets, 2. V. Bannon, 3. Davidson, 4. Lutton, 5. Xanthopoulos, 6. Rogers, 7. Wright, 9. Cummings, 10. Evans, 11. Buljevic, 14. Campbell, 15. Stevenson, 16. Shirra, 17. Wooddin, 19. Blair, 20. Tsigaras. Coach: J. Margaritis.

Sunday, 3pm
Middle Park

PAST RESULTS:

1977: Sth. Melbourne v Brisbane City 0-1
1978: Sth. Melbourne v Brisbane City 0-1
1979: Sth. Melbourne v Brisbane City 4-0
1980: Sth. Melbourne v Brisbane City 3-3
1981: Brisbane City v Sth. Melbourne 1-1

BRISBANE CITY

Likely squad: 1. Wishart, 2. Dunne, 3. Ratcliffe, 4. Tokesi, 5. Perry, 6. Gaffney, 7. Palinkas, 8. Pimblett, 9. Conner, 10. Low, 11. Caldwell, 12. Tripp, 14. Hamilton, 15. P. Wilkinson, 16. McVeigh, 17. B. Wilkinson, 18. Vincenzino, 20. Coe. Coach: G. Potter.

REFEREE: C. Bambridge
Linesmen: M. Gaut
D. Fokianos



Ratcliffe

SCOREBOARD

CANBERRA ARROWS v NEWCASTLE 4-1(2-1)

Canberra (4-3-3)

Matsopoulos (4)	Hosowski (5)	Byrne (5)	R. O'Shea (4)
I. Stone (3)	M. O'Shea (3)	J. O'Shea (3)	Gibson (3)
Valeri (3)	Brennan (4)	Maclaren (3)	
Mountford (3)	Heys (3)	Kamasz (3)	
Buckley (3)	Jones (3)	Senkalski (4)	
Tredinnick (2)	Mason (2)	Drinkwater (2)	Reaney (3)
	Dando (3)		

Newcastle (4-3-3)

Replacements: Stamp (39m) for Buckley, Massa (58m) for Stone, Purdie (64m) for Brennan.
Goals: 0-1 Jones (8m), 1-1 Byrne (14m), 2-1 Brennan (32m), 3-1 Valeri (72m), 4-1 Purdie (81m).
Referee: K. Allen — **Crowd:** 3,200 — **Cautions:** Nil.

Canberra, not a team known for mercilessly exploiting the defensive errors of their opponents, proved the critics wrong in this clash.

The match began at a cracking pace with the Newcastle midfield energetically asserting authority over their Canberra counterparts.

When Newcastle hit the lead after only eight minutes Canberra fans could be forgiven for expecting yet another home defeat, as David Jones received the ball on the left wing and slid a 12-metre shot past Hosowski.

Canberra, however, seemed spurred on to make amends and gradually midfielders such as Ian Stone and

EXPLOITED

ian Gibson began to piece passes together.

After 14 minutes the Arrows were on level terms.

Tony Brennan fired towards goal from an acute angle, the shot rebounded to Byrne whose goalmouth drive rebounded off Senkalski into the net.

The game had suddenly swung in favour of Canberra and their defence was adroit at soaking the mild pressure which the Newcastle forwards exerted.

Canberra hit the front with a gem goal scored by the mercurial Brennan.

Receiving a wing pass from MacLaren, he cut infield skirting Reaney and Mason before curving the ball round the despairing Dando from 15 metres. This goal, as Ray Baartz later mentioned, demoralised the Novocastrians.

Newcastle's vocal fans watched in solemn silence as the Canberra defence marshalled superbly by Terry Byrne stifled all efforts by the visitors to cause scoring opportunities.

It was Byrne who cleared a ball off the line when a 2-2 scoreline could have changed the result of the game.

The third Canberra

goal emphasised the ineptitude of the Newcastle defence. Mason gathered a ball pressed by Valeri and passed a weak ball to Dando.

Dando hesitated and Valeri was on hand to collect and score.

For Newcastle the trauma continued. After a long throw in Purdie — a substitute for the injured Brennan — with his back to goal hooked the lob past Dando to give the Arrows a fine spirited victory.

Canberra now back on the path to success are keyed up to end the season on a high note with a top four place the Arrows' target.

— Peter Kunz

ADELAIDE CITY v STH. MELBOURNE 2-0(0-0)

Adelaide City (4-3-3)

Russell (4)	Przybylski (4)	Jones (4)	B. Nyskohus (4)
Melta (4)	Perin (4)	Villani (4)	Marocchi (4)
Northcote (5)	Mitchell (5)	J. Nyskohus (3)	
Buljevic (4)	Cummings (4)	Lutton (3)	
Rogers (4)	Shirra (4)	Stevenson (4)	
Davidson (4)	Blair (3)	Xanthopoulos (3)	Bannon (4)
	Laumets (4)		

South Melbourne (4-3-3)

Replacements: Campbell (40m) for Lutton.
Goals: 1-0 Northcote (61m), 2-0 Perin (79m, pen.)
Referee: P. Rampley (NSW) — **Crowd:** 5,300 — **Cautions:** Melta, Northcote.

"That was the best Philips League game I have seen in five years."

This was the enthusiastic post-match response from a regular supporter, whose opinion carries much weight because he is not an Adelaide City fan.

And that opinion was echoed by many who saw this highly competitive, all-action encounter.

Here was a classic case of the inconsistent, sleeping Giants awakening to vent their frustrations, born of a six-match spell without a win, on the league leaders.

It was obvious from the start that South would be severely disadvantaged without their

BEST EVER

key strikers, Alun Evans and Steve Wooddin.

With Evans suffering a hamstring injury and Wooddin on national team duty with the Kiwis, the Gunners entered the fray like a boxer with one hand tied behind his back.

Gunners coach John Margaritis recalled Billy Rogers and Bertie Lutton to fill the vacancies, but suffered another major set-back five minutes before halftime when Lutton was carried off on a stretcher with a gashed shin.

Despite the problems, South unleashed a menacing attack with

Branco Buljevic and Duncan Cummings giving their all up front.

The most effective strikers on the park, however, were Brian Northcote and new Socceroo David Mitchell.

Lanky Mitchell gave his national team colleague Steve Blair a torrid afternoon with his charging runs into the box and it was Northcote who broke the goal deadlock when he hooked a fine drive past Peter Laumets.

That success signalled a series of retaliatory raids by the Gunners, but Charlie Villani and Bobby

Russell cleared attempts from Cummings and Vince Bannon off the City goalline before Jack Przybylski splendidly saved a stinging drive from Jim Shirra.

Giants made it 2-0 some 11 minutes from the final whistle when referee Peter Rampley awarded a penalty as Bannon floored Sergio Melta when the midfielder sped into the box; Johnny Perin expertly slapped the spot-kick home.

With the game played at a cracking pace it was inevitable that both sides would blow scoring opportunities.

— Allan Crisp

POSTPONED GAME

BRISBANE CITY v STH. MELBOURNE 1-1 (1-0)

Brisbane City (4-3-3)

Caldwell (3)	Wishart (4)	Dunne (4)	W. Wilkinson (3)
Hamilton (3)	Perry (4)	Pimblett (4)	Gaffney (3)
Palinkas (2)	P. Wilkinson (2)	Kelso (3)	
Buljevic (2)	Evans (2)	Cummings (4)	
Shirra (4)	Rogers (4)	Stevenson (3)	
Nicolaides (3)	Lutton (4)	Xanthopoulos (4)	Bannon (4)
	Laumets (3)		

South Melbourne (4-3-3)

Replacements: Campbell (40m) for Evans, Falco (70m) for P. Wilkinson, Vicenzino (82m) for Hamilton.
Goals: 1-0 Kelso (21m), 1-1 Xanthopoulos (84m).
Referee: D. Nugent — **Crowd:** 2,100 — **Cautions:** Nil.

For the first 45 minutes this was a highly entertaining match, both teams showing good skills and managing to string lots of passes together in nice intricate moves.

Only one goal was forthcoming though, a 20 metre shot by Kelso, hooked nicely on the turn, beating Laumets down low at his right hand post.

Both coaches had been forced to make changes but players with the experience of Xanthopoulos and Lutton should never have allowed the big striker the time, or space, to execute his move.

Just before the goal Wishart had shown good form in turning a Stevenson rocket round the post, but these two incidents apart neither goalkeeper had a lot to do as defenders appeared to have the measure of their respective opponents.

The second half took on a subtle change when gradually the visitors took control of the proceedings.

For some reason or another Brisbane City fell back into their own half and allowed the Gunners to exert pressure on their defence.

The home team did engineer a few swift breaks but ace striker Paul Wilkinson was out of touch

and his usually deadly head scored three easy chances.

However, South Melbourne were in charge and after a spate of corners Xanthopoulos finally got the goal that mattered when he rose unchallenged to head home from five metres.

The last few minutes had the local fans biting their nails and it was they who were glad to hear the final whistle, blown with the home goal under siege.

— Jim Binnie



Only now can one really feel sad about Australia's World Cup demise...

Had we not played New Zealand twice for a starter, had we "lost" the erratic Gutendorf as a coach after the December tour, things could have turned out differently.

With hindsight it's easy to claim now that the whole ASF planning of the campaign was wrong.

We should have left the two New Zealand matches to the very last instead of staking everything, needlessly, on getting three points off them in the first two encounters of the series.

It's also plain now that Arthur George's fierce defence of Gutendorf in December was a huge mistake.

Had Gutendorf been relieved of his post then and there — with overwhelming evidence pointing to his instability — perhaps Les Scheinflug would have pulled us through.

The 10-0 whitewash of Fiji last Friday in Melbourne was a predictable romp.

Never in my 45 years of watching soccer have I seen an international team half as inept as Fiji.

They would not survive in the NSW State League — and I bet some of our leading first division teams like Yugal, Kuringai and Wollongong would also beat them.

Blond bombers wipe out Fiji

10-0 IN WORLD CUP

Some of their little Indian players seemed to be staggering around in a daze; they have no idea how to tackle, mark opponents, guard zones or build attacks.

As for their goalie Akuile — the clumsiest dolphin has better ball-handling abilities than this pathetic little man.

What can one say about Australia? They scored ten goals — and with a bit of care and attention, it could have been 20.

In the first half, while Fiji's condition lasted, there was a semblance of a contest in Olympic Park.

But when in the second half Gary Cole found the gaping holes in the middle of the defence, Fiji's resistance crumbled.

Still, even against such ludicrous opposition, the Soccerroos showed some promising signs.

They contested every ball and never slackened their pace when the score began to mount.

The defence had a picnic day: I don't think Crook had one decent

shot to save. Henderson, Niven but particularly Davidson had little else to do but join the attack.

Davidson's energy, enthusiasm and skill made him the outstanding man of the match: at long last, Australia has a classy fullback on the European scale.

All the midfielders were in effect attackers and Katholos made the most of it.

Up front, the two tall, blond strikers, Cole and Mitchell established an instant partnership which may last for quite a few years.

Mitchell — three goals — was possibly even more impressive than Cole — seven goals; his devastating runs on the wings, his quick inter-passing and calmness in front of goal prove that he has matured much faster than one could have expected.

Cole, of course, is Australia's best goalscorer on his day.

Seven goals in an international — even again-

st Fiji — will give him many tales to tell to his grandchildren on cold winter evenings.

As for Sharne, he is still notches below his best or even speediest.

Had he been anywhere near his best — or had the attack included Kosmina or Brennan instead — the score could have been a world record.

Australia: Crook, Davidson, Blair, Henderson, Niven, Katholos, Barnes, Byrne, Mitchell, Cole, Sharne.

Fiji: Akuile, lone, Watkin, Choy, Morrell, Mana, Samy, Meli, Williams, Ratu, Inosi.

Goals: Mitchell (28m, 43m and 80m), Cole (37m, 43m, 54m, 63m, 70m, 71m and 76m).
Crowd: 3,500.

— a.d.

John Kosmina last week — helping or hindering?





WESTFIELD SCOREBOARD

WE'VE MADE SHOPPING FUN AGAIN! COME AND SEE!

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Westfield
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S.A.: ARNDAL KILKENNY and
MARION SHOPPING CENTRE.



SYDNEY CITY v LEICHHARDT 3-0 (1-0)

Sydney City (4-3-3)

Mullen (3)	Robertson (4)	Clarke (4)	O'Connor (3)	Spanos (3)
Patikas (4)	Souness (4)	Barnes (3)		
Watson (5)	Kosmina (4)	Boden (3)		
	Giampaolo (3)	Soper (3)		
Butler (4)	Kafka (3)	Coyne (3)	Morsello (3)	
McAusland (3)	Pullen (4)	Wilson (3)	Skellern (3)	
	Woodhouse (4)			

Leichhardt (4-4-2)

Replacement: Pirie (46m) for Morsello.
Goals: 1-0 Kosmina (16m), 2-0 Boden (81m), 3-0 Watson (90m).
Referee: J. Reeves — Crowd: 4,216 — Cautions: Skellern, Souness, Wilson, Mullen.

It was difficult to understand why two good teams would play such a physical, spiteful game from the very start.

The leniency of referee Reeves didn't help things but really, what can an official do when players of both teams are more anxious to settle accounts than play?

Four yellow cards were shown, two for bad tripping, one for a "professional" foul and one for elbowing behind play.

The "war" ended in a draw but Sydney City also managed to score three goals and climb back to the top of the table.

On the face of it, there was hardly three goals

WARFARE

between the teams but considering scoring chances City did deserve its win for sure.

In the first half Morsello and Soper repeatedly dashed into the box to chase long balls but their only shot on target was in the 34th minute when Coyne unleashed a sudden shot from 35 metres and Clarke did well to push it to corner.

Three consecutive corners by Leichhardt were also wasted during five minutes of intense pressure.

Kosmina opened the scoring in the 16th minute when he hit

home, on the run, after a Robertson freekick.

Souness had a shot cleared off the line, a Barnes shot was saved to corner and a Kosmina shot was charged down.

The second half continued with the same needling tactics.

Things livened up in the last 12 minutes. In the 79th Boden ran into the box and was brought down by Wilson — a clear penalty to everybody except the referee.

Two minutes later Barnes was tripped and this time a penalty was awarded but Woodhouse made a remarkable save

from Boden.

Barely a minute later Kosmina took a pass, turned and shot. Woodhouse palmed the ball away; Boden, from 16 metres, calmly collected it and converted.

Boden could have scored yet another when his angled shot hit the upright after a good combination.

Watson, in good form lately, gave another top performance and just on fulltime headed home a pinpoint cross from Souness.

It was a pity to see a small group of visiting supporters chanting provocative slogans and throw some bottles and a rubbish bin onto the running track.

— Joe Marton

PRESTON v WEST ADELAIDE 2-0 (0-0)

Preston (4-3-3)

Rainey (3)	McMillan (4)	Clayton (4)	Ollerton (4)	Beech (3)
Flavell (4)	Farrell (3)	Boyle (3)		
Whittle (3)	Lucchesi (4)	Brown (4)		
	Wright (3)	Smythe (3)	McGregor (4)	
Kowalski (2)	Marwe (2)	Honeyman (3)		
McKie (3)	Kambas (4)	Forde (4)	Maricic (3)	
	Crook (4)			

West Adelaide (4-3-3)

Replacements: T. Brown (45m) for R. Marwe, J. Little (67m) for A. Whittle, Cullen (78m) for R. Flavell, A. Lorenzo (83m) for P. Kowalski.
Goals: 1-0 Brown (83m), 2-0 Lucchesi (91m).
Referee: C. Bambridge — Crowd: 2,000 — Cautions: Maricic, McKie, Honeyman, McGregor, Rainey, Boyle.

Preston kicked off in the teeth of a strong northerly, which threatened all promise of skilled play.

Both sides, to their credit, kept the ball low, and the efforts of Smythe in the third minute through a strong right wing attack brought an excellent save by Clayton.

Doug Brown broke through with a solo run after 13 minutes, but the headwind swung the ball off target, with Crook covering well.

West Adelaide pushed forward, and Zoran Maricic, coming through an uncovered midfield unleashed a powerful drive in the 20th minute, which 'keeper Clayton grasped well.

BLUSTERY

Preston were containing the West Adelaide attack, and were instituting their own attacks through Ollerton and Whittle when Lucchesi's shot was turned for a corner.

The game was proving to be very negative with yellow cards deservedly being shown for stupid offences such as kicking the ball away when a freekick had been awarded.

No less than six cautions were awarded, after players had been spoken to and warned.

One Smythe effort looked promising, but Rainey dispossessed

him very easily in the 36th minute.

A Lucchesi attack looked dangerous, but he was ruled offside.

A Brown foray five minutes before halftime looked promising, but clever keeping by Martyn Crook outsmarted the former English professional.

The Preston defence gave nothing away, albeit the West Adelaide attack made too much use of the wind with little tactical skill.

On the turn, it was Lucchesi and Brown who threatened most danger with Martyn Crook the master in every

emergency.

One must give a mention to the performance of Tom Forde, who would have controlled West much better if the midfield had shown more enthusiasm in their task.

McMillan had shown lots of effort in feeding his attack with good passes without result.

With only seven minutes left, Clayton lofted the ball to Rob Cullen, who swivelled the ball to Brown, for that player to rifle the ball past Crook.

The final blow for West came in injury time when Lucchesi finally slipped a neat one in the corner of the net, to clinch the points.

— Jock Stephen

OLYMPIC v BRISBANE LIONS 3-1 (1-0)

Olympic (4-3-3)

Moulis (4)	Rowden (4)	P. Wilson (3)	Ziras (4)	Scott (4)
Raskopoulos (4)	Wilson (4)	Katholos (4)		
Redfern (3)	Koussas (4)	Jennings (3)		
	Low (2)	Daunt (2)	Wilkinson (2)	
Ogden (2)	Hogg (3)	Ferris (2)		
Niven (3)	Hermiston (3)	Bennett (4)	Ontong (4)	
	Scanlan (3)			

Brisbane Lions (4-3-3)

Replacements: McLean (47m) for Daunt, G. Wilson (47m) for Ogden, Gavin (79m) for Redfern, Jamieson (88m) for Katholos.
Goals: 1-0 Koussas (46m), 2-0 Redfern (47m), 2-1 Wilkinson (55m), 3-1 Raskopoulos (87m).
Referee: G. Power — Crowd: 5,700 — Caution: Ziras.

After four wins in a row, Lions lost their bite and went down with one of their most disappointing displays.

Not only did the youngsters fail but even Hermiston's usually impeccable distribution also malfunctioned badly.

All this against an extremely mobile and cohesive Olympic had to lead to defeat which could have been even larger.

The first half hour was annoyingly uneventful apart from a barrage of shots and headers by Olympic which were saved, blocked or scrambled away.

It was a non-stop procession to Scanlan's goal and, in injury time, it

ALL ONE-WAY

brought results.

A floating cross from the right dropped into the goalmouth and with both Bennett and Hermiston miles away, Koussas' header popped into the corner.

Two minutes after the re-start the Olympic win was assured.

Koussas, moving and snapping like an eager terrier, pounced on a through-ball and lobbed Scanlan.

The ball crashed against the crossbar and Redfern placed the rebound into the net.

Lions coach Joe Gilroy made a double substitution, taking off

the totally indisposed Daunt and Ogden and, for a period, a semblance of order returned to their team.

In the 55th minute Bennett headed on a right wing cross and Wilkinson's header relayed it past Peter Wilson.

But the revival was short-lived; Olympic surged back to take control once again.

Twice in 10 minutes two low shots of Katholos crashed against the post with Scanlan merely a frightened spectator.

Williamson had a

chance after a quick break in the 72nd minute but miskicked the ball madly bouncing on the terrible surface.

Finally it was left to Raskopoulos to seal the match.

Three minutes from the end he sent an innocent-looking low shot at goal; the ball got a bad bounce and dribbled into the net off the prostrate Scanlan's arms.

Olympic could have won by an even more impressive margin but I doubt if they cared; with this win they finally assured themselves of a place in the PSF next year.

— Andrew Dettre

HEIDELBERG v FOOTSCRAY 2-0 (0-0)

Heidelberg (4-3-3)

McMillan (4)	Yzendoorn (4)	Olver (3)	Provan (4)	Yankos (4)
Selemidis (3)	Campbell (3)	Rooney (3)		
Bozikas (3)	Cole (3)	Paton (3)		
	Lujic (3)	Verweij (3)		
Jovanovic (4)	Ilioski (3)	Milne (3)	Kakantonis (3)	
Hazabent (4)	Kyriakouleas (4)	Kondarios (4)	O'Reilly (3)	
	Boland (4)			

Footscray (4-4-2)

Replacement: Cozzella (65m) for Milne.
Goals: 1-0 Kyriakouleas (o.g. 84m), 2-0 Cole (88m).
Referee: G. Neal — Crowd: 4,000 — Cautions: Paton, Selemidis.

Heidelberg has recognised its mistake over the past year and is trying hard to make amends.

Vice president Sam Gouloupoulos said last week: "We failed as administrators. We should never have tampered with the coaching situation. Len McKendry has proved what a top coach he is by lifting the team from the relegation danger in a few short weeks."

The club has now offered the coach a two-year contract and McKendry, himself the wiser a year later, has said he will probably take it rather than wait around in case any other offers come up.

GRAND FINISH

The revitalised Blues were the better side in the first half and only two clearances off the line prevented them taking the lead.

After 25 minutes Arthur McMillan hooked the ball away before it crossed the goalline after a shot by Johan Verweij had beaten Jeff Olver.

And only eight minutes later Zdravko Lujic headed past Olver following a corner and half turned away in jubilation only to see John Yzendoorn materialise on the line to head clear.

Gary Cole who had been presented with a massive bunch of flowers in recognition of his seven goal feat for Australia two days earlier, was subdued by Jim Kondarios for most of the game, while Paton, Cole's close partner, received similar treatment.

At the other end Lujic and Verweij were also kept under control by McMillan and Bob Provan so the odds were on a goalless draw.

But when everybody had settled for a stalemate, Paton managed a break down the left side and slotted

a shot past Boland, six minutes from the end.

Kyriakouleas, following up to cover managed to get his head to the ball but could only help it on to the underside of the crossbar and into the net.

Footscray then abandoned its defensive policy to go out in search of the equaliser and presented Cole with the ideal opportunity to close the gap at the top of the scorers' list.

With two minutes to go the striker got his name on the scoresheet with a scorching drive from 25 metres which sailed into the top of the net giving Dennis Boland no chance.

— Paul Galea

THE GREAT "SUMMER" DEBATE

BRING US MORE SKILL

Much of the criticism levelled against 'summer soccer' is based on the belief that in the months of October to May it's too hot to play 'good soccer' in Australia.

/ Are we playing good soccer in the other months now...?/

What the critics keep forgetting—or what's worse, ignoring—is that almost all of the matches would be played in the evenings.

And in most cities—probably even in Brisbane—you do need a jumper on a lovely summer evening...

But let's take this heat-doubt a bit further.

There were howls of outraged protests when it was announced that the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico would be staged in the summer.

The protests increased to a crescendo when it was learned that, to suit European TV schedules, the matches would have to be played in day-time, quite often at 2pm.

The heat—and Mexico City's altitude—would lead to scores of deaths among the players and the standard of football would be terrible.

That, anyway, was the prediction of the British Press.

What did happen?

July, 1970, World Soccer (London) editorial: "Blood-bath in Mexico did not materialise..."

August 1970, same magazine, by noted writer Eric Batty:

"The fears regarding altitude and heat had been groundless; in fact, had a beneficial effect...they combined to slow the game down. This has been one of soccer's greatest

problems in the past decade: that the pace of the game is such that players have no time to look around and think...

"To play at the accustomed speed would have been suicidal. Thus...the game was slowed down and where speed and power had dominated skill and intelligence for a decade, now it was the artists who held the upper hand..."

In the same issue of the magazine, the illustrious Brian Glanville wrote:

"The 1970 World Cup was...over all...the most encouraging we have had since the war...because in a dour age of defence and negativity, an age in which 'work-rate' has seemed to take precedence over creativity...a team won despite its defence..."

Again the same magazine, this time Leslie Vernon:

"Against all expectations, this was a truly noble competition, a great propaganda for the game..."

Three views from well known and extremely well informed and widely travelled soccer writers on a World Cup—played in the summer heat of the day in hot Mexico...

Indeed, anybody who does remember the series will recall that after the usual drab start (a World Cup tradition by now), Mexico produced some brilliant matches.

"Brilliant Brazil crush Uruguay" and "Seven-goal thriller" (Italy v. West Germany) were some of the headlines.

England "failed" but not because of the heat.

Actually, the English beat Rumania and Czechoslovakia in the preliminary rounds before going down 1-0 to Brazil in a magnificent match. Later Brazil won the Cup...

"England missed several chances to equalise late in the game," said a match report.

Can a team, exhausted by heat, even try to equalise near the end of 90 minutes?

After the World Cup, a FIFA Technical Committee compiled and published its report.

Members of this group included Walter Winterbottom, former England manager, Dettmar Cramer, then a FIFA staff coach and later Bayern Munchen supremo and Ron Greenwood, then the West Ham boss and now the England manager.

References to the altitude and heat in Mexico from the Report:

"Teams would rather play matches under floodlights to avoid playing in extremes of solar radiation. Teams should not be asked to play at the hottest time of the day, for any reason. (Clear reference to European TV demands for early afternoon starts.)

"The combined effects of altitude and heat caused some players to lose normal standards of physical condition which, in turn, affected playing standards."

"However, football is a game of skill and it is possible therefore to use tactical and technical skills to control the speed of play."

"It would be wrong to discount the weakening effects of heat and high altitude; it would be equally wrong to exaggerate them."

Critics in Australia gleefully quote from a letter included in the ASF report.

In this Allen Wade writes (Feb. 17, 1981):

"I can find no research information about acclimatisation problems experienced by European players moving to tropical (?) conditions. My experience, for what it is worth, tells me that dehydration generally and especially during play will be one big problem. There is evidence to show that the ingestion of fluids during a match helps performances in any conditions."

So now we find that the only 'hostile witness' quoted—

a./ has no research material on the subject despite being the fulltime Director of Coaching of The (English) Football Association;

b./ offers a personal view with great caution;

c./ refers to Australia as the 'tropics' (good heavens, will they ever learn about us in London? I would like to see Wade freeze in the pleasant Melbourne or Hobart climate);

d./ suggests that fluids (salt tablets) will

Soccer revolt
Chilly hello to Summer
Soccer plan
CLUBS IN A PSL FURY
Soccer to gamble on summer
PSL COMMITS SUICIDE
PSL recommends move to summer

Publicity...

What's wrong with summer Soccer, anyway?

Night games should be a tremendous success particularly if they are promoted properly.

And there is more avenue through the press in the summer for space to be devoted to Soccer than in the winter, when we allot so many columns to League in Sydney and Rules in Melbourne.

Some of the hostile Press reactions to the PSL decision (top) and, perhaps more significantly, a brief comment from the 'Sun' sporting editor Bill Casey (bottom).

help overcome heat problems.

/ By the way, I would want to know why my Director of Coaching has no research material available or why he cannot obtain such.Or is this appalling attitude to a profession universal among such well paid personnel?/

So this is the crux of the whole argument: soccer can be played well and very entertainingly in warm weather, especially in the evenings.

Furthermore, it may just benefit the Australian game...

Almost everybody except the blindest apostles of the kick-and-rush agree that what our game lacks is more skill and sophistication.

The majority of PSL matches now—in 'ideal' winter months—produce precious little skilful football and a hellish lot of maddening rush, 'contest' (fouls and cautions) and 'pace' (keep running, anywhere).

Then we come up in an international against any European team, even from the depths of the Yugoslav second division and we are startled and dismayed by the frightening technical deficiencies of our best players.

A number of players, computerised only for 'contest' will disappear, with them will go some coaches whose whole philosophy is based on the 'get stuck in' syndrome.

The sooner that happens the better for Australian soccer.

Then we will have the other, more skilful and more thoughtful coaches remaining who will know perfectly well how to use and sharpen the skills of their players to produce better class football.

GIVE US LIGHTS...

The lack of suitable floodlights at most grounds is the most serious handicap for the proposed "reverse season."

The report gives this run-down on the position of the 16 clubs.

• **Blacktown** — Gabble Stadium Does not have any lights and has indicated no plans to install any at this stage.

• **Marconi** — Marconi Stadium Is lit to playing standard level. Club states that it will 'look into' upgrading to television standard level.

• **Canberra** — Bruce Stadium Is currently not lit. Club states that Government will install TV standard lights by August, 1981.

• **Newcastle** — International Sports Centre. Currently not lit. Club states that ISC Trust are 'working on it.' However, latest information is that club is considering moving to alternate venue which is lit to playing standard only.

• **Wollongong** — Wollongong Showground. Ground is lit to playing standard. No plans to upgrade to TV standard level.

• **Sydney City** — Sydney Athletic Field. Ground is not lit. Club states that City Council are 'considering' installing TV standard lights during 1981.

• **Olympic** — Pratten Park. Stadium is lit to minimum playing standard. Club stated in December 1980 that Ashfield Council is considering upgrading lights in 1981.

• **Leichhardt** — Lambert Park. Only training lights installed. Club stated in December 1980 that it is doubtful that Leichhardt Council would update lights to

higher level. However, negotiations are in progress between the club and Council for the use of Leichhardt Stadium which is one of the best TV-lit stadia in the country.

• **Brisbane City** — Spencer Park. Currently the stadium is equipped with training lights only. Club plans to upgrade to playing standard during 1981 and to TV standard only in the event a sponsor is obtained to fund the installation of TV standard lighting.

• **Brisbane Lions** — Richlands Stadium. Playing lights installed. Club stated in December 1980 that quotes are being sought for upgrading to TV standards.

• **Adelaide City** — Olympic Sportsfield. Training lights only. Club states that it will approach local Council to ascertain attitude on upgrading to TV standard.

• **West Adelaide** — Hindmarsh Stadium. Stadium is equipped with minimum TV standard lights.

• **South Melbourne** — Middle Park Stadium. Stadium not lit. Club stated in December 1980 that it is obtaining quotes for playing (not TV) standard lights.

• **Preston** — Connor Reserve. Training lights only. Club states that it plans to install lights within five years.

• **Heidelberg** — Olympic Park. TV standard lights installed.

• **Footscray** — Schintler Reserve. Training lights only installed. Club has stated it has no plans to upgrade at this stage.

NO GAMES IN HEATWAVE

The ASF Report deals extensively with the weather conditions for October — May and includes many pages of reliable charts and met statistics.

Excerpts:

Summer heat and high humidity were perceived as being the single biggest issue opposing the concept of changing the playing season. Most of the publicity created has centred around the supposed hardships expected if Australian soccer is to be played in what has been tagged 'the summer months'.

The concept was never put forward on the basis that we maintain the Sunday 3pm kick-off time. There is no point in re-elaborating on this.

Neither has anyone taken into consideration that when extreme temperatures occur quite suddenly, that a new rule would need to be introduced which allows a game to be called off or postponed because of heat, in the same way that referees or the Secretary has the right to postpone in the event of wind and rain.

It is obvious that we would enjoy warmer months through a playing season that commences in October and concludes in May. That in fact was the whole reason behind the proposal that by having a warmer environment in which the game is being played, it would be more conducive for spectators to be encouraged to attend the games.

If one goes back over previous years one can ascertain that in the majority the temperatures are still favourable for playing soccer.

However there are always anomalies, and the erratic behaviour of weather patterns can never be precisely projected.

One has to treat the maximum temperatures published in meteorological data as being the unusual and, in some cases could provoke the call-off or postponement clause.

The key is in analysing the average high of both temperatures and humidity at various times of the day and then planning the playing season and actual kick-off times accordingly.

Hence in looking at Sydney, one can see that in January the average temperature is a high at 26 degrees and a low at 19 degrees. The humidity at 3pm is approximately 60 percent in January.

Interestingly in Sydney, January has an average of 14 rain days as opposed to 17 in May. There is less likelihood of games being washed out or spectators kept away because of adverse weather conditions.

Newcastle enjoys similar temperatures and humidity levels.

In Melbourne in January the average temperature is approximately 25 degrees with

humidity at 3pm of about 53 percent.

Interestingly humidity in January in Melbourne is lower than in May or July. Also January has the average number of 12 rain days as indeed does May.

Canberra has a high of 27 degrees and a low of 13 degrees in January with humidity at a very low 35 percent. This is a lower humidity than in May or July.

The number of rain days in January in Canberra are far less, so the likelihood of adverse weather conditions affecting the playing of a game or spectator levels is lower.

In Brisbane the average high is 29 degrees and low of 20 degrees. Humidity is not much different in Brisbane in January than it is in May.

What is different is the likelihood of rain in January. However, nobody in soccer has ever complained before about rain. For years we have played the game in wet conditions.

In Adelaide the average temperature in January is about 26 degrees but humidity can be high at 3pm in an afternoon in this month. Interestingly though not that much higher than it is in May or July.

Our conclusion on temperatures and humidity levels must be as follows:

The League has to determine what is considered to be totally unacceptable weather conditions.

If you analyse the average temperatures over all the cities in the month of January, which is traditionally the hottest month across the nation, you will come up with an average high temperature of about 26 or 27 degrees with a normal temperature floating somewhere between that and 20 degrees.

In all cases there are maximum temperatures incurred on freak

days which might stray into the 40s but in more likelihood would be in the low 30s as a really hot day.

We would suggest that the average temperatures incurred historically are quite unacceptable to play soccer in, and it is the abnormal freak temperatures which would cause the occasional problem. Those problems can be overcome by taking other common sense logical steps in both pre-planning and on-the-spot decisions.

If the game can be played through these months by the players, then certainly the game can be more enjoyed by the spectators who can then watch soccer in conditions similar to those that they happily attend cricket, tennis and other summer sports in large numbers.

In context with all of these points regarding temperatures, we propose that a policy of night-time soccer be adopted for Philips Soccer League clubs throughout the key period where temperature conditions are projected as being abnormal for the maintenance of adequate playing standards.

This subject interlinks with the points on daylight saving hours and the use of night-time lights, all of which are covered in other sections of this document.



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THE GREAT "SUMMER" DEBATE

NEW FANS RECRUITED

These are the resolutions and recommendations of the PSL management Committee:

RESOLUTIONS

- That the League Management Committee resolved to recommend the Council of Clubs formally adopt the resolution to change the playing season for the League to commence with a new season from October 1982 to May 1983.

- That the report tabled by ASF Marketing and its findings and recommendations related to what should be done in concert with this move, be adopted and implemented. However, that the decision whether or not to have a break, and when, be decided after formal discussion by the full Council of Clubs.

- That there are many benefits to be accrued from such a move that will form the cornerstone of other development plans including:

- Greater chance to attract current non-soccer followers. A greater pool of adult sports enthusiasts/potential spectators available to draw upon due to less 'time' conflict with their sporting interests in other sports or social activities.

- Lessened conflict with other pro soccer tournaments. A greater pool of adult soccer spectators available to draw upon due to non-conflict of 'time' with State and amateur league soccer which they currently attend.

- Non interference by international fixtures. Less interruptions of the League season due to haphazard scheduling of international matches.

- Lessened media conflict with other sports. Lessened conflict for soccer exposure on or in, television, radio and print media.

- Ability to organise PSL internationals. The ability to invite and compete against top international sides in matching 'off seasons', by Philips Soccer League clubs that will assist build spectator interest in those clubs.

- Attract junior and youth players. A greater likelihood of drawing

junior and youth soccer players as spectators/supporters due to lessened conflict with their available time.

- Better climate to watch the sport. A more conducive 'climate' to attract new types of spectators generally to the sport.

- Introduce more night-time and mid-week fixtures. More ability due to climatic conditions to develop night-time soccer and mid-week fixtures.

- Develop indoor soccer in our off-season. A greater ability to develop indoor soccer as our off-season sport, as well as other new short term professional tournaments or events.

- Better opportunities for full-time employment. Greater potential for development by existing players to earn sufficient income to turn full professional and also to provide encouragement for up-coming youth players to consider the sport as a career.

- More sponsorship opportunities. Greater commercial and sponsorship opportunities opened up due to non-conflict with other football codes and ability for them to obtain year round exposure by supporting both.

- Co-operation and co-existence with other sports. Greater opportunities for co-existence and co-operation with other football code clubs who can benefit from association and usage by soccer of their facilities.

• DIRECTOR

- That the League Management Committee resolved that the Council of Clubs endorse the appointment of a full-time Executive Director of the League to commence duties as soon as possible.

- That the League Management Committee resolved that the Council of Clubs endorse a resolution that participation in fund raising activities organised for the 1982 season to provide capital, be a mandatory condition of participation in the League by its member clubs.

- That the League Management Committee resolved that the Council of Clubs that in concert with all other resolutions and recommendations being put forward, that the League and its individual clubs co-operate, assist and participate in all individual and respective State Federation organised Cup competitions to the best of their abilities from 1982.

- That the League Management Committee resolved that the Council of Clubs appoint a 'Sub-Committee' to prepare plans and proposals for the long term development of the Australian Youth League. That in context with the proposed adoption of a zoned competition for League clubs being considered for the longer term, whether zoning for the Youth League should be adopted sooner.

• IMPORTS

Also as part of this 'Sub-Committee's' responsibility to set down for formal adoption a resolution for a League policy on the progressive reduction of imported players over the next five years and the firm establishment of a programme of Australianisation by encouragement and use of local players, and adoption of a formal League youth development policy.

That these plans dovetail into any plans set down by the new ASF Executive Sub-Committee formed as the last ASF Executive Committee meeting and charged with the responsibility of preparing a new programme from 1982 to build and maintain National Teams to play between 1982 and 1986 in various international tournaments.

WHO IS FOR PLAN ?

How will the voting go on September 5 when PSL clubs are asked whether they want to switch the season to October—May?

According to a survey taken last December, nine clubs are certain to vote yes, three will say no and the others are wavering.

We have tabulated, from the Report, the attitudes of the clubs individually.

	Attitude to change	Any break suggested	Ideal day	Ideal time
Adelaide City	In favor	No	Friday	8pm
Blacktown	No opinion	Dec 23 - Jan 31	Fri/Sat	No opinion
Brisbane City	No opinion	Dec 15-Jan 15	Friday	Night
Brisbane Lions	In favor	No	Friday	Night
Canberra	In favor	2 Xmas weeks	Saturday	7.30pm
Footscray	Opposed	2 Xmas weeks	Fri/Sat	8pm
Heidelberg	No opinion	No opinion	Sunday	Night
Marconi	In favor	No	Friday	8pm
Newcastle	Opposed	2 Xmas weeks	Saturday	8pm
Olympic	Opposed	Dec 15-Jan 15	Saturday	8pm
Preston	In favor	No	Sat/Sun	6pm
Leichhardt	In favor	No	Saturday	8pm
Sydney City	In favor	No opinion	Saturday	8pm
Sth.Melbourne	In favor	No	Saturday	8pm
West Adelaide	In favor	No	Friday	8pm
Wollongong	In favor	No	Saturday	8pm

This needs some further elaboration. The survey was taken in December and hasn't been brought up to date.

Many of the problems of Australian soccer can be seen, in a microcosm, in the answers and attitudes of the clubs.

Blacktown have never submitted an opinion on the subject of reverse seasons — and they had

more than eight months to do that.

Heidelberg's new committee had "no time" to consider the subject.

Marconi's three interviewed officials were in favor — but since then president Tony Labbozetta has come out against it. One to three — so Marconi will vote 'no'...

Newcastle were in favor, then made a survey of their own and changed it to opposition — but since then, we believe, they've gone back to a 'yes' vote again.

We predict that these clubs will vote in favor on September 5:

Adelaide City, Brisbane Lions, Canberra, Heidelberg,

Newcastle, Preston, Leichhardt, Sydney City, South Melbourne, West Adelaide and Wollongong.

This will leave in opposition Blacktown, Brisbane City, Footscray, Marconi and Olympic.

The motion will be carried 11 to 5 — or better.

TWO-ZONE SYSTEM FOR THE FUTURE

The following are the recommendations made by the Philips Soccer League Management Committee to the Council of Clubs. These are concepts that we consider have sufficient merit for further detailed investigation.

The Committee recommends that the new Executive Director be responsible, in conjunction with appropriate 'sub-



PSL Chairman Frank Lowy.

PHILIPS TO STAY

Philips Industries are almost certain to remain the sponsors of the national league.

Chairman Frank Lowy said last week that Philips would make their decision before the end of September.

He also said that Philips would accept a change in playing seasons.

If plans by the PSL materialise, they are likely to become a separate organisation later this year though fully affiliated with the ASF.

They are also likely to get direct representation on the ASF executive.

committees', to prepare reports for final discussion, adoption or otherwise by the Council of Clubs the following subjects.

(1) The principle of restructuring the League on a zoned basis as part of a long term development plan to provide the ability for new clubs from regional areas to participate in the various competitions. That this be properly investigated and a detailed plan of expansion based on a zoned competition to be introduced when 24 teams are available be prepared by an appointed sub-committee.

(2) That the League should look at working with the Tasmanian and West Australian Soccer Federations in preparing plans, and providing the utmost assistance in preparation that facilitates entry of teams representing both these States at the earliest possible time to the League. That in the case of Tasmania this should be in either the 1982 season, or the 1982/83 season in line with the change in playing season resolution.

(3) That the League

should prepare final recommendations and reports on the viability of restructuring the League on a 'franchise system' where all clubs are shareholders and members of the League company, and individual clubs themselves are owned on a franchise basis with specific rights of membership assigned to them as 'franchisees'.

(4) That the League should prepare detailed plans for the League to commence from the 1982/83 season a programme over forthcoming years of organising matches and tournaments against international club teams from Europe, Asia, Oceania, South America and North America. That this dovetail with plans set down in point 5 of the League resolutions.

(5) That the League should prepare a plan for the formation of a properly constituted Players Association to protect and develop the interests of professional soccer players and Philips Soccer League clubs.

(6) That the League should organise a series of Administrative and

Technical Workshops in 1982 to embrace a variety of subjects of importance to its members with a view to ultimately providing better trained and equipped club administrators.

(7) That the League should prepare a detailed plan for the expansion or development of the Philips Cup tournament into a prestigious national competition separate from, in public perception, the League Championship.

(8) That the League discuss various alternative methods of reducing the number of drawn games in League competitions to encourage more competitive play and adopt new policies commencing as soon as practical.

(9) That the League Management Committee recommend that the Council of Clubs endorse a resolution for a mandatory ruling from 1982 that all clubs must ensure their players wear their name on the back of their playing strips when competing in games organised by the League.

Domestic or overseas group travel rates for clubs and teams.



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CROWNING

FIRST DIVISION

—By Charles Spiteri

The last round of the State League has provided the NSW Federation with one of the most unpredictable finishes for many years, with both the relegation — and theoretically — the premiership issues still hanging in the balance.

Any one of four teams could face the big chop, with Avala being drawn inextricably into the relegation mire courtesy of their 3-0 loss last week.

Of the four matches involving the possible relegation candidates, Parramatta's clash against Croatia looks the most hopeless.

And yet, a loss to Croatia would not automatically send them down: if Bankstown also lose to Riverwood then they will face the axe.

However, even a four way tie for the last place could happen.

An Avala loss against Canterbury, draws by Norths against Auburn and by Parramatta with Croatia, combined with a Bankstown win over Riverwood would see a four way play off, as goal difference doesn't determine the relegated team.

Interestingly, the relegation issue could affect the title outcome as well.

Although it is highly unlikely, Parramatta could pull off one last super-human effort on Sunday to beat Croatia.

And if St. George beat Sutherland, the title would be theirs!

But that rests on the severely weakened Parramatta causing the upset of the decade against a controlled, capable and coolly efficient Croatia.

We predict Croatia will have little trouble beating Parramatta, despite the latter's knowledge that they have to try and get at least a point.

Croatia seem to have wound themselves up to a peak and look in far better shape than St. George after the long season.

A big crowd should be on hand at Garside Park on Sunday to crown Croatia champions.

Bankstown, we feel, will escape relegation.

They have mustered themselves for the last stand and last week's loss against Croatia is unlikely to affect their morale.

Against Riverwood they should have the

ability to go out and attack and safeguard their State League place.

Riverwood, however, still have the something left to fight for, in that they could improve their final position.

However, we think the will to survive will be stronger, and we tip a Bankstown win 2-0.

Melita are still smarting after last week's draw with St. George, and feel they are more than ready for the final four series.

This week they take on Monaro in what will be little more than a practice match for both teams.

However, we feel Melita won't waste the opportunity to hone their

shooting skills and we tip a 2-1 win for the Eagles.

St. George entertain their 'local' rivals Sutherland this week at the St. George Stadium and will be trying desperately for a win.

It wouldn't surprise if more than a few anxious phone calls are made to Garside Park during the match, as they will be hoping for a miracle in the shape of a Parramatta win.

But coach Frank Arok's big problem will be to get his side going once again in readiness for the top four series.

St. George seem to have lost their edge and it would be a shame if

this fine attacking side went through the season without capturing even one honour.

We predict a 2-0 win for the Saints.

Canterbury have had a poor season, and the club is in the process of a big re-examination of what went wrong.

Their last match against Avala should give them the chance to end on a high note, and we predict a 2-1 victory.

They should have too much in the forward line, and their defence should be able to handle Avala.

Polonia have the chance to steal fourth place from Sutherland this week, but their match against Manly is by no

means a foregone conclusion.

In fact, we feel Polonia won't be able to get more than a point from the Seasiders, and thus lose out.

Manly have finished the season well, and are hoping they can carry on next year in a similar fashion.

We predict a 1-1 draw to end Polonia's hopes for the final series.

Auburn and North Sydney play at Mona Park in a match that is important only to Norths in that they must get at least a point to be safe.

A draw is the most likely result, and we tip a 1-1 scoreline.

MELITA UPSET

St. George's faint hopes of pressuring Croatia in the final round all but vanished when they were held 2-2 by Melita last week.

Once again controversy marred the encounter with referee Richard Lorenc disallowing a Melita 'goal' right on fulltime.

When Don Campbell rose to head home a John Stoddart corner the Melita fans thought they had snatched a memorable victory.

But Lorenc ruled no-goal, saying later that he had whistled for fulltime before Campbell headed the ball.

It once again brought back memories of their first round encounter at the St. George Stadium when Melita officials claim St. George Frank Arok changed referee Tony Boskovic's mind about a Don Allan 'goal'.

That time St. George won, but this time Melita gained what they are calling a moral victory.

In other State League matches on the weekend, Sutherland and Canterbury drew 1-1, Polonia defeated Avala 3-0, Auburn beat Manly 2-1, and Parramatta won 1-0 against North Sydney, while on Saturday Croatia beat Bankstown 2-0 and Riverwood defeated Monaro 1-0.

Croatia have all but secured the championship.

They only way they can lose their fourth title in five years is by going

down to Parramatta this week.

Melita went to the lead in each half against the Saints only to be pegged back each time by St. George.

John Stoddart — former Saint — playing as striker instead of in his usual midfield position, opened the scoring after 27 minutes, but St. George midfielder Villi Kanacki equalised four minutes from half-time with a freekick.

In the 68th minute, Melita scored a freak goal, when they broke St. George's offside trap.

Mike Fraser came out of his area but miskicked the ball, and fullback Bobby McPherson moved quickly to score well from an acute angle.

Saints' captain Peter Stone equalised 11 minutes later for St. George when Mark Barton played a good ball through to open the Melita defence.

Polonia still have a good chance of grabbing fourth place after an enterprising 3-0 win over Avala, with all goals coming in the second half.

They are now one point behind Sutherland, who waited till the last two minutes to equalise against Canterbury.

Sutherland's goal was scored by midfielder Steve Meades, with former Sutherland starlet Jim Basterfield scoring for Canterbury in the first half.

Auburn gained a surprise 2-1 victory over Manly to put them clear of relegation trouble.

Charlie Prgomelja put

through his own net to give Manly the lead after 25 minutes but Dennis Daley brought the Greens level in the 34th minute.

Rod Brown gave Auburn both points in the second half with a brilliant individual goal, dribbling half the length of the field before beating Ellis.

A well taken goal from Glen Fairclough gave Parramatta a 1-0 win over fellow strugglers North Sydney to leave the relegation issue to be decided in the final round next week.

Bankstown are on the bottom with 14 points, while Parramatta and North Sydney are next with 15 each and Avala still at risk on 16 points.

Bankstown went down to two Brazilian conceived and executed goals on Saturday when Croatia went at half pace to win 2-0.

Nello Borges opened the scoring after almost half an hour of Croatia pressure when he finished off a Hilton Silva move, and then early in the second half Marcos Silva put away another excellent cross.

Bankstown went close in the last ten minutes, with John Nocera squandering several excellent chances.

But despite the chances, the Croatia defence always seemed well in control of the situation.

Riverwood caused something of an upset when they beat Inter Monaro 1-0 on Saturday, to once again keep a healthy middle of the table position.

Referee: K. Small; crowd: 600; cautions: Groome, Beggs.

RIVERWOOD v INTER MONARO

1-0 (1-0)
Riverwood: Gisbourne, Blackburn, Wignall, Butcher, O'Donovan, McCrorie, Rydstrand, Lee, Bulloch, Tracey, Langdon.

Monaro: Caputo, Francis, Crawford, Noble, Santolin, Falzon, Valeri, Charles, Heywood, Link, Salgado. Goal: Butcher (30m).

Referee: G. Power; crowd: 230.

PARRAMATTA v NORTH SYDNEY

1-0 (0-0)
Parramatta: Donovan, Fairclough, Biglands, Bates, Lackey, Roughley, McKenzie, Juchniwicz, Roden, Montgomery, Crawford.

North Sydney: Katsavelas, Retore, Stenning, Blue, Matheson, S. Wilson, Minutolo, Mitchell, Morsello, T. Wilson, Termasana. Goal: Fairclough (73m).

MANLY v AUBURN 1-2 (1-1)

Manly: Ellis, K. Falconer, Doyle, Emery, Stocks, P. Falconer, Palamara, Geoghegan, Smith, Reagan, Fox (Dick 18m).

Auburn: Bowman, McInerney, Prgomelja, Bielby, Sullivan, McDonald, Quigley, Bertram, Brown, Daley, Pondakas. Goals: 1-0 Prgomelja (o.g. 25m), 1-1 Daley (34m), 1-2 Brown (76m).

Referee: D. Rennie; crowd: 150.

AVALA v POLONIA 0-3 (0-1)

Avala: Ahrens, Lembyk, Turnbull, Fairclough, Vujinovic, Ruiz, Bateman, Pearson, Youssef, Samuels, Karanfilovski.

Polonia: Kalinowski, Zounis, Jersa, R. Budini, Galas, Sookkee, Noble, Divani, Lemanczyk, Szobczyk, A. Budini. Goals: 0-1 Sookkee (33m), 0-2 Noble (67m), 0-3 Divani (75m).

THIS WEEK:

DIVISION 2

Lane Cove Uts. v Queens Park, Sun.; Pottery Green; Baulkham Hills v Campbelltown, Sun.; Ted Horwood Res.; M.D. Drott Town v Riverstone; Schofields, Sun.; Popondetta Park; Liverpool Albion v Gladesville Hornsby, Sun.; Stanwell Oval; Dee Why v North Ryde, Sun.; Dee Why Oval; Marrickville Rockdale v Bonnyrigg; Mackay Park.

DIVISION 3

Kingsford v Sydney Uni, Sun.; Turruwull Park; Artamon v Eastern Creek, Sat.; Artamon Res.; Port Hacking v Hurstville; Zagreb, Sun.; Seymour Shaw Park; Wentworth Waratahs v West Ryde Rovers, Sat.; Centenary Park; Padstow Park v Bondi Marine, Sun.; Walshaw Park; Fairfield Kiev v Paddington, Sun.; Knight Park No. 4; Padstow v Hurstville, Sat.; Potts Park.

DIVISION 4

Eastwood v West St. George, Sat.; Upper Eastwood Oval; Chelsea v West Holroyd, Sun.; Moore Park No. 12; Fairfield West v Concordia, Sun.; Parkes; Canley Heights v Maroubra Utd., Sat.; King Park; Revesby Rovers v Ryde Dist., Sun.; Amour Park; Winston Hills v North Rocks, Sun.; Max Ruddock Reserve.

DIVISION 5

Macquarie Uni v Moorebank, Sun.; Macquarie Uni Oval; Haberfield v Auburn Jun., Sun.; Beaman Park; Camden v Glenquarie Utd., Sat.; Ponderosa Park; Edensor Park v Pagewood, Sun.; King Tomislav Park; Chullora v Sydney Maccabi, Sat.; Jensen Park; Green Valley v Hawkesbury Dist., Sun.; Blamfield; Sydney Maccabi v Glenquarie, Wed. 26th, Bensley Road.

DIVISION 6

Trasandinos Sports v Liverpool Utd., Sat.; Booralee Park No. 2; Blacktown Wands v Colo Colo, Sun.; Grantham High School; Hajduk v South Sydney, Sun.; Hajduk; Robins v Blacktown Workers, Sun.; Pacilio Oval; Liverpool City v P'matta, Sun.; Ernie Smith Reserve; Bankstown Sports v Liverpool Rangers, Sun.; Condell Park High School.

In one of the toughest competition for many a year, just about everything of importance in first division will be decided this week — the last round of the competition.

For instance, the championship will be decided in a battle royal at the E.S. Marks Field between Yugal and Kuringai who incidentally both scraped through against bottom teams this weekend.

BATHURST v BLACKTOWN 0-1

Despite the score, Blacktown had an easy win against Bathurst and could have won by a bigger margin.

Going straight into attack, both Joe Ramisch and Neil Taylor should have scored early but both missed by inches.

The goal that counted was scored by Peter Murray who hammered home a weak clearance after a corner kick from about 25 metres.

After the interval, the fast moving Bathurst defended better and at times came forward on the attack but never made anything out of it.

Bathurst: Lovett, Tait, Ashleford, G. Hadley, Waine, Woodruff, Davis, Lamberton, Fish, Pickup, G. Hadley. Coach: S. Cousins. Blacktown: Evans, R. Ramisch (De Valle), Eldridge, Ber, Foster, Taylor, Clarke, Thompson, Davidson, Murray, J. Ramisch. Coach: D. Zeman.

UNI OF NSW v KURINGAI 0-2

Despite a fight back by the Students, leaders Kuringai made sure of the two points scoring a goal in each half.

Ashley Williamson scored in the first half to give them a narrow lead. After the interval John McCranor made sure of the points with another goal.

Kuringai lost defender David Hammond 12 minutes from the end, sent off by the referee.

Andrew Kay, the former Uni coach returned to the side and had a top game against the leaders in midfield.

Uni of NSW: Ridings, Graham, Erhardt, T. Popovich, Hughes (Karwal), Austin, Kay, Kelly, V. Popovich, Wannan, Antoniolli. Coach: A. Field.

KURINGAI v ANTMAN

Sidey, Hammond, Williamson, Magill, Gould, Seach, McCranor, Stewart (Smith). Coach: H. Noon.

UNI OF NSW v REVESBY 3-0

The return of former player coach Andrew Kay gave the students a boost.

They took Revesby by surprise and by half time they ran into a commanding 3-0 lead, with goal from Lou Antoniolli, Craig Wannan and Jon Kelly.

After the interval, Revesby seemed to have recovered from the shock but could do very little to salvage the game.

Uni of NSW: Ridings, Graham, Erhardt, T. Popovich, Hughes, Austin, Kay, Kelly, V. Popovich (Russell Jones), Wannan, Antoniolli. Coach: A. Field. Revesby: Pearce, Larkins, Pittman, Judd, Byles, Mitford, Gill, Parkinson (Mackinn). Coach: R. Harbour.

REVESBY v WARRINGAH 4-0

Still reeling from their defeat the day before, Revesby came out fighting and smothered

Warringah scoring two goals in each half.

Gordon Mackinn opened the score early and Greg Gill made 2-0 just before half time.

After the interval, with the breeze behind them, Greg Byles curled the ball from a freekick behind the wall and into the net and again converted a penalty to give Revesby one of their best wins this season.

Revesby: Pearce, Larkins, Anderson (Adams), Harris, Pittman, Judd, Byles, Mitford, Gill, Mackinn, Parkinson. Coach: R. Harbour.

Warringah: Robins, Duncan, Collings, Friend, Ainslie, Morris, Sturges, Byrnes, Killie, Szczyk, Beverley. Coach: A. Ainslie.

FAIRY MEADOW v GUILDFORD 4-1

Two goals by defender cum midfielder Col Hamilton sent Fairy Meadow away to a good start and a top win against Guildford.

The game was only three minutes old when Hamilton headed a corner past Freeman to give his side the lead. Tony Glass equalised 12 minutes later but Hamilton scored minutes before half time to regain the lead.

Two minutes after the resumption Steve Baker made it 3-1 and Hugh Tinney scored a top goal from a pass by Gardner.

Playing in goal for Fairy Meadow was 16-year-old Mohammad Yaglipianar who had a very good game.

Fairy Meadow: Yaglipianar, Southwell, Pic, Chibby, Tinney, Hamilton, Devenney, Richardson, Baker, White, Gardner. Coach: H. Tinney.

GUILDFORD

Freeman, McGlynn, Allen, Glass, Hunter, Stead, Robinson, Miller, Morrison, Tait, Stewart. Coach: M. O'Neill.

NORTH BANKSTOWN v PENRITH 3-0

In a do or die struggle to save themselves from relegation Norths put on a big fight right from the kick off.

Striker Ritchie Celarc scored two goals in the first six minutes and Dennis Madden added another to make sure they get both points.

Penrith, somewhat safe from the big drop did not even know what hit them against a really enthusiastic performance who wanted to keep both points at home.

North Bankstown: I. Madden, Parry, Gallagher, Thomson, Kymantas, Wileman, Buckley, C. Madden, Celarc, D. Madden, Muir. Coach: D. Madden.

PENRITH

Gibson, Pratt, K. Thoms, (Ackery), Hobart, Rasmussen, Smith (Beamer), G. Thoms, Anderson, Dunn, Timms, Lewis. Coach: S. Ackery.

BELMORE v YUGAL 0-1

A controversial penalty half-way through the second half let Yugal through to take both points against the struggling Belmore.

With relegation staring in the face, Belmore put up their best performance against the more rated Yugal.

Amanji Rokodera took the controversial kick and scored the goal that gave them the points, and kept them in the running for the championship and promotion.

Belmore: J. Hawthorne, Palmer, Jones, Martin, Cruger, Kirwin, Vergos, P. Hawthorne, Parkinson, Oughton, Warren. Coach: O. Klaus.

YUGAL

Berry, Rendell, Commings, McIntosh, Clarke, Babian, Mihailovic, Travini, McGrath, Rokodera, Tanoski. Coach: I. Takac.

WOLLONGONG v GLADESVILLE 3-0

Hard hit by injuries, Wollongong fielded three 16-year-olds in the side and still won comfortably against Gladesville.

Stephen Simpson and Paul Jones made their debut in first grade while Ian Drain (also 16) is now a "veteran" in first grade.

Ron Sattin scored to give Wollongong the lead in the first half and Dean Gardner and a replacement called Mario scored goals after the interval.

Wollongong: P. Terziowski, Drain, Telsviki, Montecchia, R. Sattin, H. Sattin, Simpson, P. Giraldi, Petkovski (Jones), L. Dakovski, Gardner (Mario). Coach: M. Johnson.

GLADESVILLE

S. Taylor, Kevern, George, Kendall, Ferrara, Johnstone, Goldsworthy, Baldwin, Woodford, Naylor, Butt. Coach: J. Woodford.



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MELITA v ST. GEORGE 2-2 (1-1)

Melita: Greedy, McCoy, Daley, D. Campbell, McPherson, Berry, Darville, Farrugia, Allan, Stoddart, T. Jones.

St. George: Fraser, Skeen, Terry, Barton, Rylands, McDonald, Davies, Stone, E. Campbell, Kanacki, Marton.

Goals: 1-0 Stoddart (28m), 1-1 Kanacki (40m), 2-1 McPherson (67m), 2-2 Davies (80m).

Referee: R. Lorenc; Crowd: 3,500; Cautions: E. Campbell, Kanacki.

CROATIA v BANKSTOWN 2-0 (1-0)

Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Pagano, M. Kovacic, Coleman, Vidaic, H. Silva, Steven, M. Silva, Borges, Hensman.

Bankstown: Lachowicz, Rootsey, Usher, Radovac, Greg Lynch, Rea, Glen Lynch, Nocera, suret-Beater, Fergusson.

Goals: 1-0 Borges (34m), 2-0 M. Silva (49m).

Referee: B. Wilkinson.

SUTHERLAND v CANTERBURY

1-1 (0-1)

Sutherland: Haynes, Hesford, Watkins, Donnelly, Dal Forno, Rogers, Groome, Meades, Murphy (T. Bush 75m), Beggs, P. Bush.

Canterbury: McPherson, Psautonomou, Lane, Brown, Barton, Basterfield (Gill), Thamnidis (Bourke), Osman, Brown, Williams, Laws.

Goals: 0-1 Basterfield (2m), 1-1 Meades (88m).

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COCA-COLA BOTTLERS LEAGUE REPORT

By Paul James



MELITA FAVOUR SUPER LEAGUE

Melita president Emmanuel Said is usually a far from controversial man, and doesn't like it when he is the centre of controversies.

However, when he feels something is wrong in the soccer set-up he speaks out, and has more than once this year caused the NSW Federation to squirm with his statements.

But this time it seems Emmanuel, and the whole Melita club, should have the NSW Federation 'on-side' with their sentiments about the possibility of a Super State League.

Emmanuel has said several times this year that something must be done to re-vitalise the State League, and he felt the possibility of a super league was a good one.

In fact, the general opinion of the club is that a super league is a far better proposition than the PSL.

The Melita supporters' magazine 'High Flying Eagles' said in a recent issue that the club had decided against applying for admission to the PSL, something Emmanuel echoed.

"We haven't officially decided against it, but there is still so much uncertainty in the PSL."

"There is talk of regionalising it, of reversing the seasons, of increased expenses."

"At present it seems to us a much more feasible plan to consider expanding the State League into an attractive competition with Canberra, Rivérina, Newcastle and north coast teams," he said.

The magazine's editorial, written by supporters club member Lawrence Dimech said: "Our future is not with the uncertainty that is being offered by the Philips League. This magazine is of the opinion that the present set-up is due for a shake-up. The problems are so obvious that we cannot understand why it has taken so long to even-
tuate."

The magazine also said the concept of the Philips League was "bordering on the insane" in a country the size of Australia: 32 times the size of Britain and larger than Europe.

Emmanuel also said the club felt their rejection last year by the PSL had been a blessing in disguise.

"This year we were able to concentrate on completing the stadium, building up the team, and still we finished in third place."

"If we had been in the PSL, with the extra expense, I doubt if we'd been able to cope."

"Look what happened to St. George," he said.

"We still feel that as champions last year, and as we had a ground and a good crowd, we should have been considered ahead of Olympic."

"A lot has been said about Olympic's contributions to the game, but they still don't have their own ground. Pratten Park is a shared ground, with a cricket club."

"They can't do what they like with the surface, without first consulting the cricket people and the council," Emmanuel said.

The magazine takes a bigger swipe at "clubs recently admitted to the Philips League," and says they "might have made noises, might have appointed coaches known for their knack to attract publicity rather than other necessary skills. Whatever the reason, we are certain Melita Eagles would have attained a more respectable position than the bottom half of the competition table."

Sour grapes?

"Not really. As we said, at first we were a little disappointed about not getting in, but we now fully realise that we are better off."

"There were so many things we did this year that would have been impossible if we'd been in the PSL."

"And those things have helped us build for the future," Emmanuel said.

He added that he still had received contacts from several top State League clubs about the possibility of the Super League starting.

"It is something that is necessary if the leading clubs are to survive," he said.

"And it is necessary for the NSW Federation to grow," Emmanuel added.

MANLY LONG FOR BREAK

Manly officials are looking forward to the off-season break as a chance to have a complete rest from soccer.

As Manly committee-

man George Dick said, it has been several years since the so-called 'Christmas' break has been a good, long one.

"Usually the season

ends much later and it seems like only a few weeks before everyone is back in training again for the pre-season competition," George said.

"This year, with the Youth World Cup in October, we have the opportunity to give the players and officials a longer break."

George said Manly planned to leave the players in peace for a while.

"We'll give them about a month off, and then we'll have one training run a week right through the summer."

"We want to give the players and their families the chance to have the weekends off."

"After all, during the season, they usually lose at least one day on the weekend, and there is training and so on."

"There won't be any solid training until late December at least," George said.



Manly's Pino Palamara

BANKSTOWN BANKING ON BIG BACKING

Bankstown officials are expecting a big crowd to turn up for this week's game against Riverwood.

Club secretary Jim Giffin said he was confident nearly every club member would be at the Soccer Centre to watch what has become a vital game.

"Over the past two weeks there has been a tremendous amount of activity in the club, and people we haven't seen for ages have started to

come back.

"The support for the players has been tremendous, and I think they realise that everyone is backing them," he said.

Last week against Croatia most observers felt Bankstown were a little overawed by the prospect of facing the champions-elect.

"I think it was only in the last fifteen minutes that we realised we could score against



Bankstown's Greg Lynch

them.

"Croatia seemed to be cruising at half pace, and in that last spell we caught them several times."

"But John Nocera was a little over anxious and wasted three great chances," Jim added.

"I think Riverwood are going to face a torrid time on Sunday, and I hope the people of Bankstown come and support the side," he added.

NO REST FOR ATTI

Atti Abonyi is looking forward to the next few months as a time when he can start to re-model his plans for 1982.

While most coaches and players will be trying to get a rest from the game, Atti will be drawing up plans for his 'activities' during the summer break.

"This year we have a longer than usual break," he said.

"And I don't plan on letting it go past without making some use of the time."

Atti said he had two main projects he was hoping to put into practice.

"The first involves the younger players," he said.

"We'll have about four weeks off after this week's game, and then we'll get the younger players involved in a purely skill training program," Atti said.

He said that the players should still be fairly fit, even after a four week lay-off, and the routine won't involve long road runs and so on.

"I want to concentrate on the ball skills with the younger players in the club, and also involve young players from the district," he said.

"I want to make it clear that this isn't going to be a summer coaching clinic where parents can dump their kids on the weekend or during the holidays."

"This will be for boys who want to join Riverwood, and boys who are already in the club."

"I still feel that there isn't enough emphasis on skill training, and I want to try and get these youngsters involved in

fun activities which will help them learn and develop the basics," he said.

"There will be things like foot tennis, heading tennis, and other games that have been developed overseas to teach boys while they are having fun."

Atti said he wanted to have the training runs

"Then in December we plan to take 30 of the best prospects into a week long, live-in camp, where we will live, eat and sleep football," he said.

"The club is backing me in this project, as they see it is an ideal way of teaching the youngsters as well as selecting players for



Riverwood coach Atti Abonyi

about two nights a week during the summer.

He said he would consult with club coaches throughout the district to try and get the best 30 or 40 boys along to the training sessions.

"It will mean that only those boys willing to train will turn up."

"But those are the boys we want."

"We want the ones who have the desire to succeed," Atti said.

next year's reserve grade sides.

"In early December we will start up again with the senior sides and if it is possible we want to arrange a week long camp with them as well," Atti said.

"But by next year's Ampol Cup I feel we could have three sides ready and well prepared for the 1982 season," Atti added.

Tough Task

Parramatta face possibly the biggest task of their 100-year-old history when they meet Croatia this week.

A loss against the 'kings' wouldn't necessarily mean relegation, as Bankstown could either lose or draw with Riverwood.

But the feeling within the Parramatta club this week was not too cheerful.

As one official said: "What we don't like is having to rely on the fortunes of other clubs."

"We agree the chances of us beating Croatia are slim."

"That means we have to hope Riverwood can beat Bankstown."

"There are too many things that can go wrong," he said.

Last week the team staged off the issue of relegation for one more

week when they beat Nor-
ths.

"But despite the win there was a horrible feeling that 'next week it's Croatia'."

"The players fought desperately and I don't think they'd ever walk onto the field saying they'd lose," he said.

"They will fight all the way, but it worries me that the side may not be at full strength," he said.

"Some people have suggested that we will defend for 90 minutes."

"That would bring certain defeat."

"You can't hand the advantage to a team like Croatia and expect to survive 90 minutes of their kind of attacking."

"We'll try and work out our own plan — and hope the players can be motivated into giving one last effort."

"I know some of the players are prepared to sweat blood."

"I just hope the whole team is ready," he said.

APIA'S 'MOLTO BENE' KIDS

APIA have won two of the three NSW Youth League grand finals last weekend — and can win the third one, too.

In the Under-14s, APIA and Olympic played a 2-2 draw and the match will

be replayed.

The APIA Under-15s beat St. George 3-2 and the Under-16s won 3-0 against Blacktown.

A large crowd of 3,200 watched the three matches at Barton Park.

WORLD NEWS... WORLD NEWS...

The English stars of mighty Manchester United, Liverpool, Ipswich, Arsenal and Southampton still may not reach the World Cup finals but half a dozen Englishmen rejected years ago by unfashionables like Tranmere Rovers, Blackpool, Preston and Wimbledon could taste glory in Spain.

New Zealand, land of giant rugby men and tough farmers, is about to shock the soccer world. The Kiwis are on the verge of a football history by closing on a place in the World Cup Finals in Spain next summer.

While England have slipped, the New Zealand side, full of British rejects and managed by a blunt Lancastrian, is full of hope.

Now, New Zealand eyes look to the final hurdle — a play-off group against Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and China — to decide who goes to Spain. Two of those countries qualify for Spain from the play-off.

No wonder New Zealand manager, John Adshead, once a player with Exeter and Hartlepool, says: "We'll never have a better chance. Our side is unbeaten, confidence is high and we believe we're good enough to do it. The standard will be higher in the final play-off group, but we believe we can get there."

Players tossed on to the soccer scrapheap by British clubs make up the majority of the New Zealand side. Leading scorer, Steve Wooddin from Birkenhead, lasted only one year as a professional with Tranmere Rovers before emigrating.

"My contract with Tranmere ended by mutual agreement," he says. "It didn't work out and they didn't want me. So I packed up and came here. Now, I'd never go back — for football or anything else. I'm a trainee manager at a retail department store and my standard of living

is far higher than I could have hoped for in England.

"It's a different world here and such a nice place. I've been here four years and won my first cap for New Zealand last May, against Mexico."

The British interest doesn't end there. Centre-back Bobby Almond was born in London and had spells as a Spurs amateur and Orient reserve. He played for Walthamstow Avenue for three years before leaving the UK.

Right-back John Hill, an ex-Irish League international, comes from Northern Ireland and once played for Glentoran in the European Cup.

Defender Dave Bright played for Watford and Wimbledon, midfielder Duncan Cole was born in Surrey, defender Adrian Elrick was born in Aberdeen and played in Scottish soccer while Brian Turner, also born in England, played briefly for Chelsea, Portsmouth and Brentford.

Goalkeeper Richard Wilson, born in New Zealand, had a spell with

POMS ENJOYING KIWI FRUIT

Dutch club Feyenoord of Rotterdam in 1978.

"My squad's of bits and pieces," says Adshead. "But they'll do for me. We've got something going here and we know we can create history. That's a hell of an incentive."

Adshead, originally from Fleetwood, suffered a cruel blow when his playing career ended through at just 23. "I didn't know what to do at the time," he says. "So I took a coaching course and failed most of that first time around."

"Soon after, I saw an advert in the FIFA news magazine for a coaching job in Western Australia. I took it and had five good years there, with plenty of success. But when the challenge of doing

something in New Zealand, where football was very much the poor relation, came along I seized it.

"I coached Manurewa FC before getting the national job. But it wasn't all easy. Adshead took some stinging criticism in the first two years and only just clung on to the job.

"The trouble was, people couldn't see what I was trying to do because they didn't understand. But I was gradually sorting out players and now I've got the squad I want."

"The World Cup means as much to a coach as to a player. The coach has his ego, too, and I can't deny I'd be thrilled to lead New Zealand to Spain. It would be the biggest

thing by far in my career.

"If we get there no one will go with any illusions. We'd aim to learn as much as we could and battle hard to avoid a hiding from anyone. But getting there would be our achievement."

Adshead rates his side as "probably reasonable English Third Division standard." So he must see the rich irony of England's possible exclusion and New Zealand's quite probable presence in Spain.

"It's ridiculous really," he says.

New Zealand captain Steve Sumner, who couldn't make the grade at Preston or Blackpool, praises Adshead. "He's the reason New Zealand can go to the World Cup finals," says Sumner, a 26-year-old professional



The New Zealand team as they lined up in the recent match in Auckland against Australia.

SOCCER WORLD

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SPAIN'S FOREIGN LEGIONAIRES...

Quite a number of foreign stars will appear for Spanish clubs in the championship which starts on September 5.

Each club is allowed to field two foreigners in a game — though they can have as many as they like on their staff.

The list of the foreigners:

Real Madrid: Stielike (Germany), Cunningham (England).

Atletico Madrid: Dirceu (Brazil), Sanchez (Mexico).

Barcelona: Schuster (Germany), Simonsen (Denmark).

Sevilla: Cesar and Pintinho (both Brazil).

Valencia: Arnesen (Denmark), Welzl (Austria).

Cadiz: Gallis and Pivarnik (both Czechoslovakia).

Hercules: Tomaszewski (Poland), Muller (Hungary).

Valladolid: Fenoy (Argentina), Gilberto (Honduras).

Betis: Duarte (Paraguay), Peruena (Uruguay).

Espanol: Custers (Belgium), Ayfuch (Paraguay).

Zaragoza: Blanker (Holland), Valdano (Argentina).

Castellon: Rasic (Yugoslavia).

Santander: Varon (Argentina).

Gijon: Ferraro (Argentina), Gomez (Portugal).

Las Palmas: Two South Americans yet to arrive.

The only club which has no foreigners is — significantly perhaps — the champion Real Sociedad, from the fiercely nationalistic Basque region.



Steve Sumner

with the Australian club Newcastle.

But even if New Zealand astound the soccer world by reaching Spain next summer Adshead doubts whether it will improve domestic soccer in the country.

"It will be a one-off," he says. "There isn't the money here to improve the game drastically, even though 12,000 saw us play Australia in Auckland this year."

From "Shoot", London

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

• The opening ceremony of next year's World Cup finals in Spain — held in Barcelona — will cost about \$850,000.

• Arsenal have suspended their Scottish defender Willie Young, for reasons of discipline.

• Rumanian international striker Radecanu has defected and is now staying in West Germany.

• The Soviet's No. 1 star, Oleg Blokhin, was recently sent off in a championship match and faces a long suspension.

• Southampton have placed Charlie George on the transfer list. Birmingham is interested — but have no money...

• The Danish Steen Tychosen, 22, has left Monchengladbach where he was mainly a reserve and joined Molenbeek of Belgium for \$100,000.

• As if money didn't matter any more...Peter Barnes went to Leeds for \$1,500,000, David Armstrong to Southampton for \$1,250,000 and Frank Stapleton of Arsenal is likely to be signed by Manchester United for a cool \$2,500,000...

• Six of the 16 Italian first division clubs now have sponsors. Champions Juventus are not among them — but then they are under the benevolent wings of Fiat...

• Is this another Irish or Jewish joke? Billy Bingham, manager of Northern Ireland, has just spent 11 days in Israel helping the local coaches. You see, Israel and Northern Ireland — are in the same World Cup group...

• Derby's striker Alan Biley has transferred to Everton for \$850,000.

• After next year's World Cup finals, Argentina's captain Daniel Passarella wants to continue playing in Italy.

• How long is the holiday period for top European players? Well, Bayern Munchen's stars enjoyed exactly 21 days off between the seasons.

• Luton's high scoring David Moss has joined the Tampa Bay Rowdies in the USA.

• Former English international Dave Thomas, now with Vancouver Whitecaps, claims he fell out of favor with Wolverhampton because he refused to pull up his socks — literally — during matches.

• The Italian Giorgio Chinaglia has scored 310 goals in his five seasons in the USA.

• Lajos Tichy and his Honved Budapest players lost 20 percent of their usual end-of-season bonus because of a "disgraceful season."

• In the first round of the restructured West German second division the average attendance was 12,500 with Schalke — just relegated — drawing 35,000 fans to their match.

• Israel's Meshe Sinai is having trials with Aston Villa and, if successful, will sign for the English champions.

• There are strong rumors that Trevor Francis may leave Nottingham Forest.

• Spain will play a friendly international against Austria in Vienna on September 23.

• Sporting Lisboa won an international tourney in Sofia, beating Levski 3-2 in the final.

• Of the 18 coaches in the West German Bundesliga, 15 have tipped Bayern Munchen to win the title again.

• An amazing result of a friendly international: Bremen (Germany) v Manchester City 8-0...